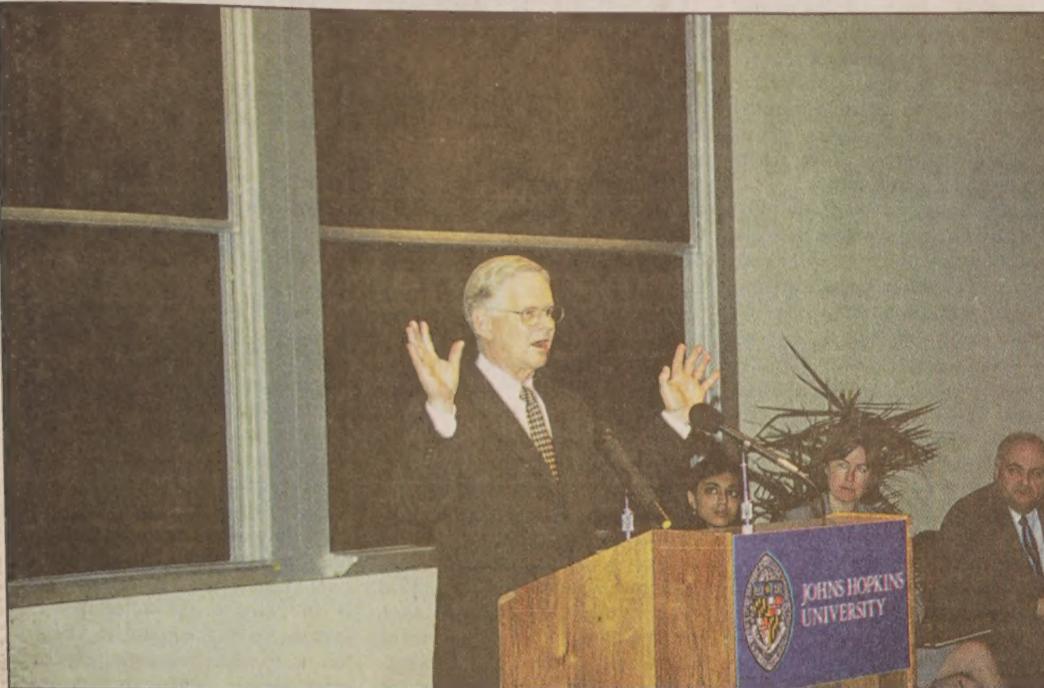


THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

VOLUME CIV, ISSUE 21

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

MARCH 30, 2000



Dean Richard McCarty said he was honored to be the first J.B. Knapp Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Knapp Deanship dedicated

BY MICHELLE FENSTER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The dedication of the James Barclay Knapp Deanship of the Zanvil Krieger School of Arts and Sciences was held Monday afternoon in Schafer Auditorium. It was sponsored by Michael Bloomberg, Chairman of the Board of Trustee and University President William Brody.

Speakers included F. Whitten Peters, Secretary of the United States Air Force and Richard McCarty, the first James Barclay Knapp Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

The endowment, donated by Barclay Knapp of the Class of 1979, was made in honor and memory of his father, Major General James Barclay Knapp. It not only provides the funding for the Dean's position in the School of Arts and Sciences, but also funds such programs as the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship.

The ceremony began with the presentation of colors by the Johns Hopkins Reserve Officer Training Corps. Sharon Kugler, University

Chaplain, then led everyone in an invocation, stressing the importance of education.

Bloomberg proceeded to welcome everyone and thanked Knapp for his generous donation. Bloomberg explained that it not only honors J. B. Knapp, but also celebrates the United States Army and the freedom that it provides, especially in the university setting.

Brody agreed, saying "We are deeply grateful. By creating an endowed chair for the dean, Barclay is ensuring leadership [at Johns Hopkins University]."

He gave a brief history on the history of endowments and made a promise that "this gift will be honored and maintained now and in the future."

Provost Steven Knapp was next on the speakers list.

He explained how beneficial the endowment was to the school by explaining that the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship had already raised Hopkins' profile among prospective students more than expected.

"Barclay Knapp's contribution is foremost about people," he said.

To further show the direct benefits of the endowment, one Woodrow Wilson scholar, Priscilla Jesunathadas of the Class of 2002, spoke about her project.

She's making an educational video about pre-natal health care for women in a village in India.

"I know one person cannot change the world, but this grant has given me the opportunity to make a difference," she said.

Knapp then took the opportunity to say a few words.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

Spray painting "tags" Homewood

BY LIZ STEINBERG
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Homewood campus was vandalized by graffiti over spring break.

The spray painting occurred on the Alumni Memorial Residences (AMRs), around the freshman quad, outside the Milton S. Eisenhower library and along the North entrance to the Homewood campus.

The graffiti ranged from "tags" (or signatures) to anti-administration comments and less explicable incidents, explained security.

According to Investigator Dennis Rosemary, the vandalism incidents are not all connected to one another.

"Somebody's going to do the same thing—not put an 'S' in one location, and a '90' in another" tagging, explained Rosemary.

He stated that vandals are usually consistent in their styles of vandalism.

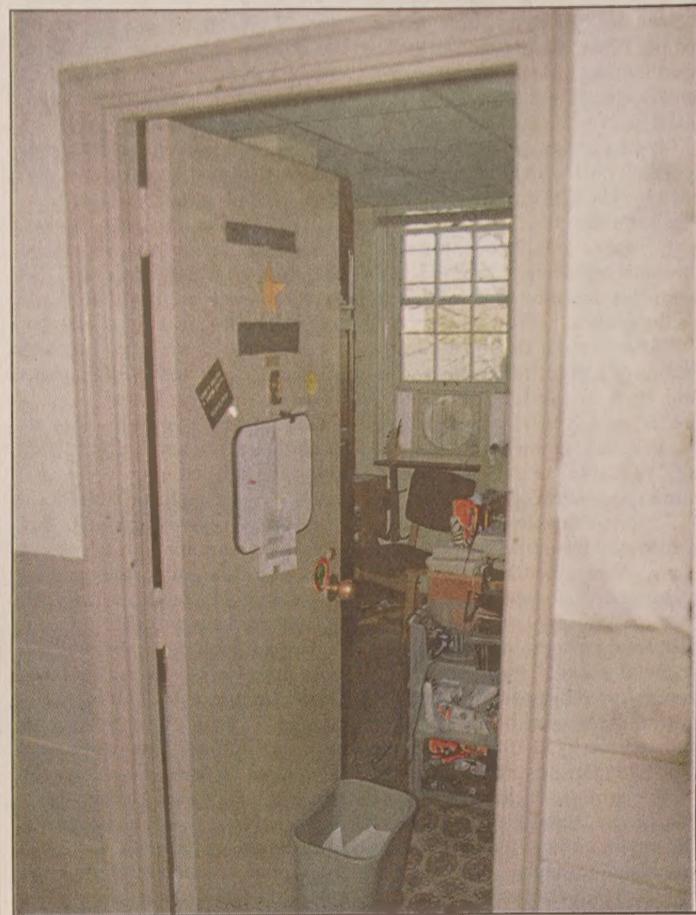
Security is working in conjunction with the Northern District Police to investigate the tagging incidents. The Northern District will be comparing the tags found on the Homewood campus to other reported cases of vandalism around Charles Village, Remington and Hamden.

Rosemary explained that the anti-administration graffiti was being investigated separately.

"I don't consider that graffiti.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

AMR II broken into, no arrests



CHUNG LEE/NEWS-LETTER

An AMR II resident found a man searching through her papers recently.

BY LIZ STEINBERG
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

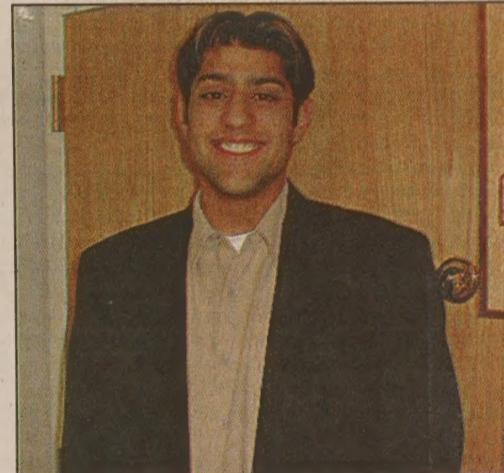
Rosemary also emphasized that students need to consistently lock their doors.

"I've been locking my doors more," explained AMR II resident

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

Mittal plans for fall

BY CHARLES DONEFER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



CHUNG LEE/NEWS-LETTER

Sophomore Anuj Mittal talks about his plans.

Class of 2002 Vice President Anuj Mittal was elected President of the Student Council on March 16. The News-Letter took a few minutes with Mittal to discuss his plans, ideas and thoughts on Hopkins life.

News-Letter: What are your goals for this year as President?

Anuj Mittal: My major goal, regardless of what's happened now, is improving student life. I want to make students more competitive in the job market. A way to do this is by offering the internships, the research and the graduate level coursework in all fields that is available, but they don't know about.

All of the committees will have a set of goals that I would like them to get accomplished, and I will meet with them to see that it gets done. If you don't know what your end-goals are and how to go about it systematically, you will get off-track.

N-L: How would you rate Zack Pack's tenure as President? Be honest.

AM: I think that Zack has done an excellent job as President. You can't ignore what he's done here. He did a lot with support services around campus. I'd like to make my year as president more effective in helping Hopkins students in the job market.

N-L: Now that the Beach and E-Level are mostly dry, what will you do to improve social life?

AM: The Beach and E-level are dry, but that doesn't mean that we can't have social events there. We can

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

Greek members on rise

BY JEREMIAH CRIM
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The number of students joining Greek organizations at Johns Hopkins has risen this year, despite the fact that four of the school's 10 Inter-Fraternity Council members were put on social probation for the first six weeks of the school year.

The Alpha Epsilon Pi (AEPi), Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike), Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) and Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) all report pledge classes that are twice the size of last year's. Phi Kappa Psi (Phi Psi) admitted a slightly larger number of pledges this year than last year as well.

*Only three fraternities, Beta Theta Pi (Beta), Sigma Alpha Mu (Sammy),

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

DSAGA opens Queer Awareness Week events

BY CHARLES DONEFER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

To kick off the Diverse Sexuality and Gender Alliance's annual Queer Awareness Days, journalist Michelangelo Signorile spoke on "Sex, the Media and the Closets of Power."

Signorile started out by saying "the issue of the closet is something that resonates with us ... until we're not brought up in the closet, it will be something we'll be grappling with."

Signorile then talked about the protests against syndicated radio talk-show host Dr. Laura regarding the possibility of her getting a television show. The protest began with a small website that encouraged people to Paramount television in regards to the show.

"All it takes is the will of a few people to do something," he said.

Signorile discussed his personal history as a gay person in the media. At Syracuse University, Signorile said that he was openly gay, but that he



PATRICK DEEM, JR./NEWS-LETTER

Journalist Michelangelo Signorile

was actually very closeted by today's standards.

"You were out when you told your friend that you were also gay," said Signorile.

After college, Signorile worked in

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

Acceptance letters sent

BY BARBARA KIVIAT
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions sent out letters of acceptance to prospective students of the class of 2004 last Friday.

Director of Undergraduate Admissions Paul White said that this year's overall acceptance rate was 32 percent, the lowest in 37 years.

This year's applicant pool also showed record-high SAT scores.

On Friday, 2,793 letters of regular-decision acceptance were sent, with an expectation that slightly more than 750 students will actually join the Class of 2004.

Approximately 225 students have already decided to enroll at Hopkins through the early decision.

Students accepting admission through the regular decision process are expected to bring the total class size to about 980.

This year Hopkins received a total of 9,443 applications for undergraduate admission, a number only slightly down from last year's total. Of the quality of student applying to Hopkins, White said, "I've been here

five years, and I think the classes have been getting better every year."

Among the students extended of-

CONTINUED ON PAGE A5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



WOMEN'S LAX STEPS IT UP

After two losses to open season, the Women's Lacrosse team has rolled off four straight wins. Sophomore Jamie Larrimore has picked up her scoring. Page B1



NON-EXOTIC SPRING BREAK

You didn't make it to Cancun or the Bahamas over spring break? Neither did we! Read about how we spent the vacation in the contiguous 48 states. Page B1



PLAY BALL!

The New York Mets and Chicago Cubs have already kicked off this year's baseball season. But it won't start for you until you take this week's Baseball Quiz. Page B12

<http://newsletter.jhu.edu>

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NEWS

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Florida State student dies in softball game

UNIVERSITY WIRE

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Last Thursday, a softball accident claimed the life of Florida State freshman Ryan L'Homme.

L'Homme, 18, who was a member of the Pike fraternity, was running from first to second base, when a thrown softball struck him in the temple. The accident occurred in the fourth inning of an intramural game between the Pike and Chi Phi fraternities on Wednesday evening.

"It was a freak accident, I've been in sports all my life and I've never seen anything like it before," Kyle Steinky, Pike's athletics chairman, said.

L'Homme initially tried to shake the injury off, saying, "Ow, that hurt," before team members helped him sit up. We had to put someone behind him so he wouldn't lay back."

"After he was hit, he looked dazed and out of it, we sat him on the ground and tried to ask him questions," Steinky said. "He wasn't responsive to our questions and he couldn't sit up. We had to put someone behind him so he wouldn't lay back."

Despite efforts by people on the field to keep L'Homme up and aware, he never regained consciousness. L'Homme was rushed to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital, where he immediately underwent surgery.

Steinky said L'Homme's parents were escorted by police from the airport to the hospital before midnight and were met by 50-75 other students, officials and friends of their son.

The group, which grew to over 200 people, stood vigil throughout the night hoping that L'Homme would pull through.

"Our entire chapter and members from Chi Phi, as well as members from most of the sororities, were out at the hospital," Pike President Alex Price said. "It was an open house. We

started with prayer, it was just an outpouring of emotion."

The group knew as of Wednesday night that even if L'Homme were to survive the accident he would still be brain dead. "That was the biggest moment, when his father came out and announced to everyone that if Ryan survived he would be brain dead," Price said. "That was one of the saddest things I've ever seen, watching a father have to say that about his son. I never saw his mother. She just refused to leave his side."

Despite the situation, many friends remained all night, making sure to keep the vigil going for L'Homme.

"I was stunned, at 4 a.m. I looked around and there were still at least 40 people at the hospital," Ed Barnes, Pike advisor, said. "I couldn't believe that there were that many people. Some left for a short while, but came back with blankets to keep a vigil over Ryan."

L'Homme died on Thursday afternoon, leaving family and friends hurt and in disbelief.

"We're all pulling together," Price said. "There is a group of five guys, who were his best friends in high school. I can't imagine what they're going through, but we're all trying to remain strong."

The surgeon who operated on L'Homme, Mark Cuffe, said that confidentiality prevented him from discussing L'Homme's injury specifically. But Cuffe said that in the case of fatal head injuries, death usually comes from one of two mechanisms.

"One thing that can happen is that the patient's brain can swell massively, just like any other tissue," Cuffe said. "The other way a patient can die is with a mass lesion or blood clot."

Cuffe also said that he had never seen a patient killed by a softball before.

UNIVERSITY WIRE

MADISON, Wis. — The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously decided Wednesday to maintain University of Wisconsin-Madison's mandatory student fees system after hearing the case, University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents v. Southworth, last November.

The decision is based on the original case filed by former UW law students Scott Southworth, Amy Schoepke and Keith Bannach against the UW April 2, 1996, with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. The plaintiffs disputed UW's mandatory segregated fee system, claiming it violated their First Amendment rights of free speech by obliging them to financially support organizations that did not coincide with their personal political and ideological beliefs.

"The First Amendment permits a public university to charge its students an activity fee used to fund a program to facilitate extracurricular student speech if the program is viewpoint-neutral," Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote in the decision handed down by the court.

Southworth, the lead plaintiff, said he was disappointed in the court's opinion but is not discouraged by this setback.

"This is not a definitive win for the university," he said. "This is a big battle and this is one phase in a long war. If it doesn't happen in my case, it will happen in another case."

The Supreme Court judgment overturned two previous court decisions, including the ruling of District Judge John Shabaz and a ruling by the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

However, the Supreme Court did not uphold the use of a student referendum system to allocate funds to certain student groups. This element of the case was remanded to district court for further proceedings.

Despite this issue, university officials were content with the court finding UW's segregated fee allocation

system constitutional.

"This is not only a vote of freedom of expression on our college campuses, but also a vote that speaks to the very heart of a university," said UW System President Katharine Lyall. "I am tremendously gratified that the Supreme Court has upheld the right of students to allocate their fee money democratically."

Roger Howard, interim associate vice chancellor for student affairs and the university's main spokesman on the case, echoed Lyall's satisfaction with the decision.

"I am very pleased that the Supreme Court recognized the importance the university places on supporting a broad forum for diverse speech," he said. "The student allocation of activity fees creates a rich array of programs on many different topics. The court's decision permits us to continue this valuable effort."

The state Attorney General's Office, which defended the Regents, argued the case with the idea that a public university should facilitate a free exchange of ideas.

"We have worked hard to defend the University of Wisconsin's ability to offer a wide variety of opinions," State Attorney General James Doyle said. "Today's ruling is a total victory for the First Amendment."

A main element of the case depended on the stipulation of neutrality of the allocation system.

Before arguments were heard, both parties agreed their cases would be based upon the understanding that the student fee system does not favor any particular campus groups.

Southworth's attorney, Jordan Lorence, said UW's victory was more limited than many first perceived because of this shared assumption of viewpoint neutrality.

"What we thought we were stipulating to was that the university has policies about viewpoint neutrality," Lorence said. "However, the university does not enforce the policies.

There are no facts as to why the system is viewpoint-neutral."

Despite the decision, Southworth said he would continue to pursue the

rights of students at public universities.

Southworth said the courts are not the only means of change for the student fee system.

Six students charged in death at Ferris State

UNIVERSITY WIRE

Knights of College Lore or the Knights of College Leadership that 19-year-old Stephen Petz had been in the process of pledging. Fraternity members were unable to wake Petz after a night of drinking and took him to the hospital, where he was declared dead. Toxicology reports found his blood alcohol content to be .42 percent, more than four times the legal threshold for drunkenness.

"First of all, we want to express our sympathy to the family of Stephen Petz. We are saddened not only by his death, but also the harm it will bring to the other students involved with the incident. We will follow up after the arraignment and carry out our own activities within our student judicial services process," said Daniel Burcham, FSU's vice president of student affairs in a written statement.

Last year, student Adriene Allen died after falling from a second floor window at a party. The incident resulted in a misdemeanor conviction against one student for furnishing alcohol to a minor.

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ERRATA

There were no reported errors in the March 16, 2000 issue of the Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

SLAC leaves Garland Hall after 17-day sit-in

BY BARBARA KIVIAT
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Members of the Student Labor Action Committee (SLAC) left Garland Hall and ended a 17-day sit-in on March 16, after signing an agreement with the administration.

SLAC members entered Garland Hall on February 28, and announced that they would not leave until the administration agreed to pay a Living Wage to all workers and subcontracted workers of the Johns Hopkins Institutions.

A Living Wage is defined to be the hourly pay required to keep a family of four above the poverty line. The City of Baltimore adopted a Living Wage policy in 1994 for all employees contracted and subcontracted through the Bureau of Purchases, and currently calculates the wage to be \$7.90.

The agreement does not stipulate that the administration will adopt a Living Wage policy, but it does guarantee that administrators and members of SLAC will work to form a committee to discuss the causes and consequences of poverty, especially in East Baltimore, and to advise administrators on ways they might improve the economic health of the community and its citizens.

The first meeting toward this provision of the agreement was held on Monday, March 27.

"We did not win a Living Wage, but we did win a commitment to a wage raise by the end of the semester, which will help workers considerably," said SLAC member Julie Eisenhardt.

"Furthermore, we won something more important for the future of the campaign - a more cohesive SLAC membership and greater ties to a more diverse group of community, neighborhood, labor and religious organizations around Baltimore," continued Eisenhardt.

The agreement also reaffirms the University's commitment to the principle that Johns Hopkins Institutions workers should be able to "live in dignity and support themselves and their families," and guarantees that the administration will take steps to accelerate progress already underway toward implementing that principle.

Last February, the university and Johns Hopkins Health System announced that all direct career employees of the Johns Hopkins Institutions and all employees of on-campus contractors would be paid at least \$7.75 an hour by no later than July 2002.

All direct employees of the institutions are already at that level or above. All on-campus contracted employees will make at least \$6.50 by July 1.

"Members of SLAC have continued to raise serious and important issues. Hopkins has had — and still has — differences with SLAC over the specifics of how we should address those issues, explained President William Brody in reference to the end of the sit-in and the signing of the agreement.

"But I believe that the ground on which we differ is actually much smaller than the ground on which we agree."

Brody continued, "I believe this agreement, and the formation of a committee to seriously study innovative approaches to the problem of urban poverty, give us the opportunity to work closely together and expand our areas of agreement."

The administration continues to hold that the Health System cannot adopt a Living Wage policy, because the financial position of the Health System cannot be predicted accurately enough to guarantee always meeting an externally calculated wage.

By signing the agreement, SLAC agrees to withdraw its demand that, as a condition for ending the sit-in, the University agree to cancel its membership in the regulatory Fair Labor Association and join the Workers Rights Consortium.

The agreement also guarantees that no disciplinary action will be taken against participants of the sit-in, and that SLAC will not conduct further demonstrations in Hopkins administrative and academic buildings.

"We plan to maintain pressure on Hopkins to make sure they do the right thing, to make sure the increases are substantial," said SLAC member Vikram Kambampati. "A true Living Wage remains the goal of the Student Labor Action Committee and supporters of the Living Wage Campaign."

Although the community — and university-based Living Wage Campaign predates the formation of

SLAC, this semester SLAC has stepped up the visibility of the Campaign. On February 22, nearly a week before the Garland sit-in began, members of SLAC erected a 6-foot-tall wooden shanty on the Beach in front of the MSE Library. SLAC members occupied the shanty 24 hours a day until the sit-in began.

On February 24, SLAC co-sponsored a Living Wage rally, which was attended by approximately 300 students, faculty, and community members. At that rally, protesters tried to force entry into Garland Hall, and a scuffle between protesters and Hopkins security ensued.

About 20 members of SLAC successfully entered Garland Hall about 11 a.m. on February 28, and locked themselves to each other and the stairs leading to the President's office with bike locks. The sit-in received local and national news coverage.

During the sit-in, SLAC staged a number of events, including a candlelight vigil on March 1, and a protest at a town hall meeting about the master plan on March 10.

Over the 17 days of the sit-in, students came and went during the day to go to classes and to take showers and change clothes. Security locked Garland Hall at 5 p.m. every evening and protesters who left afterwards were not granted re-entry until the

building officially opened the next morning. Members of SLAC spent two full weekends inside of Garland.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions temporarily moved its front reception area to the lobby of Levering Hall, because of the presence of the protesters.

During the course of the protest, SLAC received support from community members and organizations from across the nation. Certain prominent Baltimore community leaders stopped by Garland during the sit-in, including former University chaplain Chester Wickwire, and A. Robert Kaufman, a local activist who recently ran for mayor of Baltimore.

The sit-in ended on March 16 with a rally outside of Garland Hall. About 60 students, faculty, administrators, and community members gathered to celebrate the end of the sit-in and the signing of SLAC agreement with the administration.

Although the sit-in ended, the involvement of SLAC in the Living Wage Campaign will continue.

"We will work with the administration to implement this wage, but [we also] will continue to work through the community, the legislature, and other avenues until we exert the power necessary to win a Living Wage," said Eisenhardt.

Security enhanced due to protest

NARA HAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY NEWS-Letter

When the Student Labor Action Committee (SLAC) stepped up their protests in late February by taking over Garland Hall, the Security Office was compelled to respond by taking additional security measures.

The Security Office took action immediately beginning by guarding the "SLAC Shack", a wooden shanty placed on the Beach in front of the Milton S. Eisenhower Library where there were student protesters during the day and night. Director of Security Ron Mullen said, "[he] assigned security 24 hours a day from the time they erected the box." At least one officer was present on each shift.

The most costly endeavor taken by the Security Office occurred when Mullen brought in extra personnel from the School of Medicine. Because personnel available at Homewood was limited, Mullen had to administer JHMI officers throughout the afternoon and overnight shifts.

Mullen said that there were four officers on duty in the afternoon shift,

two officers from 7 p.m. to midnight and one who remained overnight.

In addition to the extra manpower, the Security Office sacrificed their days off to ensure that the secure environment of the campus would not be compromised. Officers came in early, stayed after shifts and even gave up entire days to cover the shifts.

All the volunteers were compensated for their extra work.

Some of the many involved included Day Shift Commander Lt. Mark Carter and Assistant Day Shift Commander Sergeant Caroline Bennett.

The most active shift was the evening period, when Sergeant Richard LeBrun served as the Commander. Officers covering the evening shift had the dual task of managing personnel and maintaining a sufficient security presence throughout the campus.

The goal of security is always to "preserve the peace and to work with the students, faculty and staff. [We] always assume a neutral position," explained Administrative Lieutenant Tom Douglas, concerning the Security Office's role on campus.

Mullen concurred with Douglas's comment, saying that it was their duty to protect everyone involved. In reference to the "SLAC Shack," Security was concerned that predators would endanger the students.

SLAC demonstrated their gratitude to the Security Officer by commanding them in a letter sent to Mullen.

Regarding the efforts of his staff, Mullen said, "I am very pleased with the manner in which the men and women in the Security Department performed."

Mullen also praised the "demeanor of the students in the sit-in." According to Mullen, positive communication between students and security was a key element throughout the course of SLAC's demonstration.

Douglas also spoke of his appreciation for the students' responsibility not to "let things escalate to a violent situation."

U.S. Census looking for students to help

BY ROBERT DAVIES
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

sidering becoming a Census taker. He found out about the employment opportunity from recruiters at a booth at the Republican senate primary debate that recently took place on campus. "I liked the idea of having something to do with the Census because I think it's an important part of the political process in this country."

The Census Bureau employs three types of workers who assist with the collection of information. These employees include clerks, enumerators (also called Census takers) and crew leaders.

The heavy recruitment of students for enumerator positions signals the extra importance of gathering information from college students, according to Willis. "We would love to have students from [a university] environment."

In addition to the normal Census functions, information on students also helps employers to identify where their future workers are coming from. This information can be a factor in influencing recruitment efforts.

Each Census taker is given a list of residents in their area that did not respond to the survey by the deadline. The role of the Census taker, according to Willis, is to "go from door to door," knocking on the doors of those who did not respond and conducting interviews to gather the missing information. In the case of Hopkins students, their job would be to go from "dorm to dorm" to retrieve information from other Hopkins students.

Mullen concurred with Douglas's comment, saying that it was their duty to protect everyone involved. In reference to the "SLAC Shack," Security was concerned that predators would endanger the students.

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Douglas also spoke of his appreciation for the students' responsibility not to "let things escalate to a violent situation."

One such student is freshman Jonathan Snow, who has passed the qualifying test and is currently con-

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Hopkins names Menashe new Hillel director

BY MICHELLE FENSTER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins Hillel hired a new director, Joe Menashe, several weeks ago. This contract ends nearly a five-month search.

The search committee, organized in late November, comprised of students, faculty and members of the Hillel of Greater Baltimore. The co-chairs were Josh Obstfeld and Moury Garten. The students on the committee were Jessica Wolf, Dan Redman, Aaron Shrager and Jen Smollin. Alumni Laura Zaremski and Sig Yaafee, University Chaplain Sharon Kugler, and Director of Homewood Student Affairs William Smedick also served. The committee was finished off with Assistant Director

of the Hillel of Greater Baltimore, Beth Gansky and the Hillel Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow, Shelley Richelson.

The process began when Gansky screened all the initial applicants and selected several to visit Hopkins. On the campus, the applicants were interviewed by the search committee and introduced to many of the students and faculty not on the committee. Menashe was the only candidate who made it past that step.

"We interviewed three fine candidates and Joe Menashe clearly stood out in my mind right from the beginning because of his enthusiasm for becoming part of the Hopkins community. He seemed excited by richness that already exists in Jewish life on campus and enthused by the possibility for future growth. He also

recognized the unique blessing that the diverse religious communities can bring to the campus experience," Kugler said. "I think that his visits to the Interfaith Center really gave him good sense of how important the spiritual dimension of student life really is."

Obstfeld explained that the student interactions and impressions were one of the most important factors in deciding whom to invite back. "I wanted to make sure the voice of the students and Hopkins was heard."

Many administrators were also consulted. Dean of Homewood Student Affairs Larry Benedict was involved with interviewing the finalists. "I then met with one of the co-chairs of the search committee to provide my feedback to them. I am delighted that Joe Menashe will be joining Hillel and also working with us in the Hopkins community."

"I am excited to become a part of Hillel at Hopkins and join the larger Hopkins community. This is an incredible time to become a part of the Jewish community at Hopkins. Many diverse student leaders, University officials and Hillel professionals have developed a strong, student centered Jewish community. I

look forward to learning the culture, meeting the people and aiding in the continued building of the community. At the risk of saying a trite cliché I feel very blessed to have this opportunity," Menashe explained.

During his first visit to Hopkins, Menashe attempted to meet as many students on campus as possible. He led a discussion over lunch, hosted a student discussion night, met with the Jewish Student Association leaders and attended a Hillel Board meeting with Associate Dean Steven David.

"I met Joe Menashe and was deeply impressed with his commitment to student life and educational background," said David.

Menashe was invited back to spend the weekend in order to allow him to meet more students and so that he could get a better feel for the Jewish life on campus. "[We were also] trying to woo him over to our side," Obstfeld admitted.

Richelson explained, "Joe was a perfect fit in the Hopkins Jewish and general community. His excitement and knowledge are contagious. He will do a wonderful job."

"Joe was our consensus pick," added Smedick.

NEWSBRIEFS

Friends dangerous for young drivers

Young drivers are far more likely to have a fatal accident if there are passengers in the car, according to data from two surveys collected by researchers at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health. The risk of a driver being killed in an accident was 36 percent higher for 16-year-old with one passenger, 86 percent higher for those with two passengers, and 282 percent higher for those with three or more. Similar patterns were found for 17-year-olds. The risk of accident increases after 10 p.m. The statistics apply to both male and female drivers. The survey, which did not suggest possible explanations for the findings, is consistent with previous studies by the Department of Transport and Manchester University. Li-Hui Chen and colleagues collected the data, which was printed in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Madansky, former Hopkins professor, dies

Leon Madansky, former physics chairman at the Johns Hopkins University, died at the age of 77 on Saturday, March 18. Madansky had conducted research that led to the construction of the spark chamber, a device for detecting radiation, or elementary particles, in the 1960s. Madansky started his 51-year association with the Hopkins physics department in 1948, was physics chairman from 1965 to 1968, and retired last year. He was named the Alonzo Decker professor of science and engineering in 1975, and received an award for his teaching in the 1960s. Madansky was remembered as influential by many of his former colleagues and students, and started many of the physics department programs. Aside from his research, Madansky was known as an avid art enthusiast.

Human Rights Quarterly among top four reporting magazines

The Human Rights Quarterly, a human rights magazine produced by the University of Cincinnati students and faculty and a publication of the Johns Hopkins University Press, is one of the four finalists in the reporting category of the National Magazine Awards. Competing against professional magazines including The New Yorker, Vanity Fair and Harper's, the Human Rights Quarterly made it into the final four with an article on the civil war in Liberia. The 20-year-old Quarterly has a worldwide circulation of 1,469.

Contributors and editors are not paid. Quarterly Director Bert Lockwood believes that the magazine has a good chance, despite the larger competition. Winners will be announced during a luncheon on May 3.

Cleanup campaign top politicians' agendas

Trash cleanup campaigns have topped the political agendas of mayors around the world. Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley held a cleanup campaign entitled "Super Spring Sweep Thing" on March 24 and 25 described as a "feel-good" event by political experts. Johns Hopkins University political science professor described trash as being "visible" and "bad for morale." O'Malley is the latest in a succession of Baltimore mayors that have tried to get the city involved in the cleanup process. Past campaigns included efforts by former Mayor William Donald Schaefer in the late 1970s, and O'Malley's immediate predecessor former Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke. Schmoke had held an annual "Garbage Man Appreciation Day."

Visiting prof named Book Award Finalist

Thomas Sleigh, a visiting professor at Hopkins, was selected as a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize in poetry for his anthology *The Dreamhouse*.

The winners, who will receive a \$1000 cash prize, will be announced on April 29.

"Through sheer artistry, Tom Sleigh manages to write ... in a transcendent way, and without appeal to the metaphysical assumptions of transcendence usually requires," wrote Gary Jacobson in *The Boston Globe*. The anthology contains references to Greek and Latin myths, and describes certain moods in great detail. Sleigh has received awards in the past, including the Shelly Memorial Reward in 1999, and the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Award in 1993. His book *Walking* was selected by the *New York Times* as a Notable Book of the Year in 1990.

Sleigh is an English and creative writing professor at Dartmouth College.

Next Year's Tuitions announced

Full-time undergraduates in the School of Engineering and the School of Arts and Sciences will have to pay \$1,270 more in tuition for the 2000-2001 school year, an increase of 5.4 percent over this year. Room and board will cost \$8,185, a four percent rise. Tuition for other divisions is also set to rise, from 2.8 percent at the School of Advanced International Studies to 16.6 percent at the School of Nursing. The administrators attribute the need for the increased tuition partially to the cost of operating the new Student Arts Center.

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Oscar winner King Gimp from Baltimore

UNIVERSITY WIRE

tion and a minor in Art.

Central to the film is Keplinger's success as an art student at Towson, despite having virtually no dexterity in his hands. King Gimp, the title stemming from Keplinger's self-given nickname, shows how Keplinger created critically acclaimed works by painting with a "headstick," or brush attached by a strap to his forehead. He painted by moving his head.

Keplinger is currently enrolled in the University of Baltimore graduate arts program. He was present during Sunday's ceremony, but missed getting up on stage because he fell out of his wheelchair out of excitement.

"Dan threw himself backwards over in the wheelchair," Hadary said backstage. "And we were all screaming so hard with him, we just sort of felt like throwing ourselves on the floor with him. It was so incredibly beautiful."

This was the first Academy Award for Hadary and Whitefield, who won an Emmy in 1998 for *Bong and Donnell*, a documentary about a friendship between a disabled Phillipine-American boy and an able-bodied African-American boy.

Homewood area crime report March 13—23

March 19

• 3:45 a.m. — Unit Blk. Art Museum Dr. Suspect assaulted and attempted to rob the complainant.
• 7:00 a.m. — 2500 Blk. Greenmount. Av. A pay phone was taken.
• 8:00 a.m. — 500 Blk. E. 28th St. Unknown suspect broke into vehicle, stealing tools valued at \$805.
• 6:25 p.m. — 3200 Blk. St. Paul St. One adult arrested for taking power cords and glue.
• 11:00 p.m. — 4200 Blk. York Rd. Unknown suspects forced front door to carry-out restaurant and removed stereo equipment. One adult was

arrested.

March 20

• 7:30 a.m. — 3700 Blk. Greenmount Av. 87 Nissan with no tags stolen.
• 10:42 a.m. — 500 Blk. E. 33rd St. Front and rear Maryland tag GGG 705 stolen.
• 12:48 p.m. — 400 Blk. E. 33rd St. Seven video takes were taken from a video store.
• 3:45 p.m. — 500 Blk. Gorsuch Av. Victim was approached by a male armed with a silver handgun. Victim's wallet and US currency were taken,

value of \$115.

• 3:54 p.m. — Unit Blk. W. 27th St. Unknown suspect broke rear window, setting off alarm. Jade necklace removed from second floor bedroom.

• 5:14 p.m. — 2700 Blk. Mathews St. Rear Maryland tag #151 AV taken from vehicle.

• 6:51 p.m. — 3100 Blk. Greenmount Av. Male, 9 years old, produced black handgun and took victim's wallet containing \$112.

• 7:00 p.m. — 3400 Blk. N. Calvert St. Nautica cell phone removed from '94 Chevy pick-up, Maryland tag # 578 557.

• 7:28 p.m. — 2800 Blk. Huntingdon Av. Suspect pushed and bit victim. One adult was arrested.

• 10:00 p.m. — 100 Blk. W. 27th St. Truck with tag #M390725 stolen. Anti-theft device used.

March 21

• 12:55 a.m. — 3200 Blk. Greenmount Av. Unknown suspect broke into beauty supply store and stole various hair products. Loss valued at \$150.

• 1:00 a.m. — 3400 Blk. Guilford Av. 1994 Pontiac with temporary tags stolen.

• 1:37 a.m. — 2500 Blk. N. Calvert St. Purse, \$10, and a Nokia cell phone stolen from car.

• 1:11 p.m. — 2700 Blk. Atkinson Av. Vehicle stolen.

• 4:15 p.m. — 2600 Blk. Boone St. Unknown suspect stole the complainant's cell phone.

• 5:05 p.m. — 2900 Blk. Mathews St. Suspect assaulted and robbed the complainant of a cell phone valued at \$150.

• 7:15 p.m. — 400 Blk. Venable

Av. Unknown suspect forced entry into auto and removed property.

• 9:40 p.m. — 3900 Blk. Greenmount Av. Suspect robbed complainant at gunpoint.

March 22

• 7:10 a.m. — 2400 Blk. St. Paul St. Apartment entered by force through front door. Unknown suspect entered and stole items totalling \$959.

• 10:46 a.m. 3400 Blk. N. Charles St. Nextel Cell phone removed at \$400 stolen from automobile.

• 12:38 p.m. — 3600 Blk. Old York Rd. Sticker taken from Maryland Tag M3370415.

• 8:27 p.m. — 3800 Blk. Greenmount Av. rear Maryland Tag GKJ 468 stolen.

March 23

• 12:20 a.m. — 3100 Blk. Gulford Av. Unknown male robbed the complainant at gunpoint for \$10 and personal property.

• 11:25 a.m. — 3400 Blk. N. Calvert St. Male suspect took computer property and fled scene.

• 7:00 p.m. — 700 Blk. Cator St. The suspect took the victim's light blue 1993 Ford Tempo.

• 7:14 p.m. — 2600 Blk. Guilford Av. Suspect failed to pay \$30 cab fare.

• 8:23 p.m. — 400 Blk. E. 33rd St. Male suspect removed property from display. A store clerk attempted to stop suspect and was assaulted.

• 10:30 p.m. — Unit Blk. E. 33rd St. Male suspect assaulted victim with a blunt object and robbed him of his wallet.

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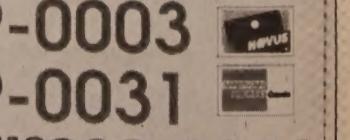
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New StuCo president says he hopes for more social life

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have a series of bands on the Beach, like a symposium for bands. That way we can bring the Beach back, not as a venue of debauchery, but a venue of pure enjoyment.

N-L: Is drinking important to social life at Hopkins?

AM: I don't think that it's important, but it exists at Hopkins. The important qualifier is if drinking is taken adversely on campus. No matter what happens ... drinking will happen. Instead of making people go out to the corners of Baltimore, we should foster responsible drinking on campus. I'd like to see the fraternities be more

responsible with their parties, make them less centered around drinking; they need more money, not for kegs, but to spend on things like decoration.

N-L: What are your thoughts on the housing situation — security, overcrowding, vermin, etc.?

AM: I think the primary concern that I have with housing is that we don't have enough it. We are increasing the size of classes but not the support that comes with it.

In terms of quality of life, the key to fixing it is by working with [the] Housing [Office] ... the key to that is constant nagging [of them].

N-L: What do you believe can be done about undergraduate TAs?

AM: I think that a lot can be done and is being done. Courses for TAs [are offered] over the summer. Work is being done.

N-L: Do you plan to do anything about academic dishonesty?

AM: I think an honor code exists. It's there in the Ethics Board Constitution. It highlights everything you'd think would be in an honor code. Students don't know that they are being held to what's in this constitution.

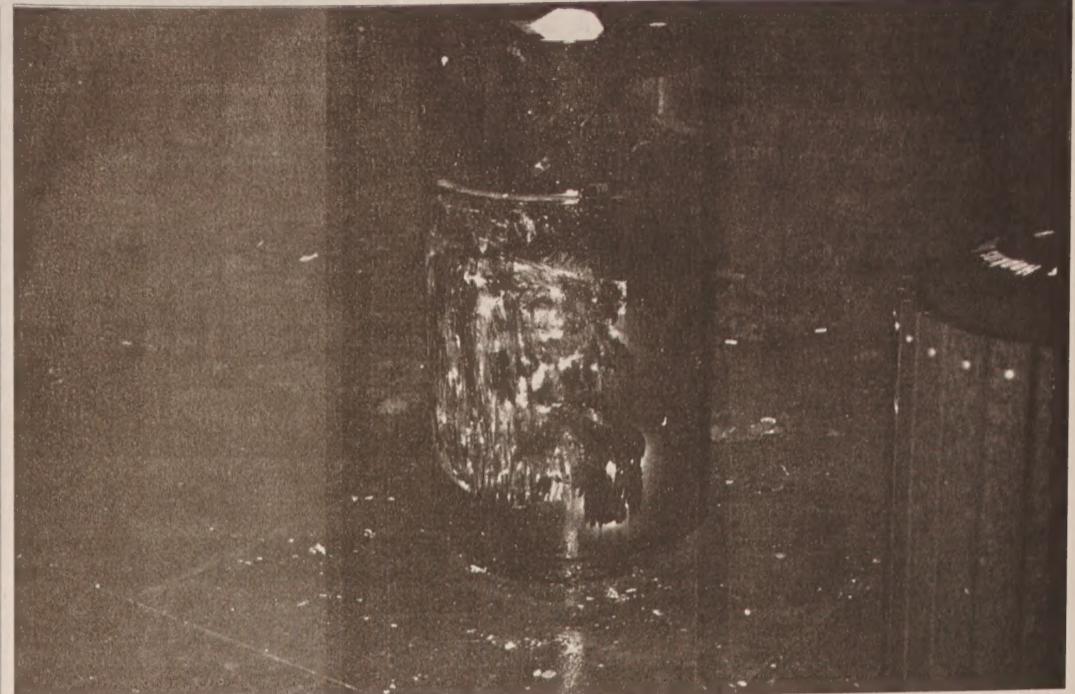
The basic answer is not the creation of a new honor code, but making students aware of the current system.

N-L: As the winner of the election, you might be a little biased, but how do you think the Single Transferable Vote system worked? Do you support its continued use?

AM: I've had my issues with it when it comes to representative elections. Some people who wouldn't have made it into the run-off won positions, and that becomes problematic.

The precept behind STV is to go out and reach everybody. To reach 4,000 people in a week goes against the point of STV.

The precept behind STV is to go out and reach everybody. To reach 4,000 people in a week goes against the point of STV.



PATRICK DEEM, JR./NEWS-LETTER

This trash can, seen here after graffiti was erased, was one of several places spray painted during spring break.

Class of '04 on the way

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

fers of admission are a top 10 winner of the Intel Science Talent Search, a United States Figure Skating Association four-time gold medallist, a co-author of two books about business investment for children and a technology buff who, as a middle schooler, was featured in *National Geographic World* magazine for writing a computer anti-virus program.

The Office of Admissions will now launch an array of programming so that accepted students may better decide whether or not to enroll at Hopkins.

Early next week, the Office of Admissions will be conducting a student phone-a-thon to answer any questions prospective students may have about Hopkins.

The Office of Admissions will also be holding open houses on campus throughout the month of April.

Accepted students must notify Hopkins by May 1 whether or not they accept the offer of admissions.

Suspect still at-large

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Raya Jarawan in response to the recent incident: "It's a little scary."

"A lot of students leave their doors unlocked and unattended. In some cases, they prop them open," Rosemary noted.

"We locked our doors for the night, but I still go around with the door open," stated resident Erica Stoddard, who also lives in the same hall as the complainant.

According to Security and Housing, cases involving outside intruders in dorm rooms are rare.

Housing is currently addressing the issue by getting word out to students through Resident Advisors. The issue was discussed at the RA staff meeting on Monday, March 27.

"Students feel that everyone who lives around them is their friend, they're going to protect you, but that's not the case," said Angel. "Students need to be cognizant of who is around them."

"We hope to get ... something distinctive" on the intruder as the investigation continues, Rosemary explained.

Investigation continues, Rosemary explained.

If a suspect is found, he could be charged with breaking and entering and trespassing.

Angel explained that Security takes many precautions, including constantly checking to make sure doors leading to dorms shut and lock properly.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Someone has a bone to pick with the administration," Rosemary conjectured.

Hopkins Security Lieutenant Robert Mullen said that this form anti-administration graffiti is unusual.

"The students don't usually react negatively to [President William Brody]," the subject of the vandalism, explained Mullen.

In investigating this case, Mullen explained, "We would be looking at what issues the President would be associated with directly."

"If there's no eyewitnesses, there's really not a whole lot you can do about it," Rosemary continued. "At some point, people tend to get very vocal about [what they've done], and then they get caught."

Rosemary stated that, although the Homewood campus has not seen a lot of graffiti in the past, "it can really become a problem if left unchecked."

The University has been working to remove the graffiti.

Graffiti on and around the AMRs was removed on the morning of Monday, March 27, after the university returned from break.



PATRICK DEEM, JR./NEWS-LETTER

Knapp endowed the A&S deanship and the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship.

Knapp Dean unveiled

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

He spoke of his father and of his experiences with the university. Knapp received his MBA from Hopkins in 1979. He is a member of the Krieger School of Arts and Science's Advisory Council, as well as a founding member and former national chair of the School's Second Decade Society.

"To endow the Deanship is to honor both of the major institutions in my life: Hopkins and my father," Knapp said.

He expressed his hope that the donation would "provide seed money for new ideas."

McCarty spoke next and started with a quote that the younger Knapp had once said to him.

"Hopkins is very good at training entrepreneurs and doesn't know it yet," he remembered.

McCarty admitted his initial confusion about this statement, but ex-

plained his final understanding of it.

"Research is an entrepreneurial activity and a foundation of Hopkins," he said.

McCarty added that the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship clearly encourages this. He finished his speech by thanking Knapp for his donation.

"I am honored to be the James Barclay Knapp Dean," McCarty said.

Peters spoke last. He talked of Major General Knapp's service.

General Knapp was a 1939 graduate of West Point and, during his career in the US Air Force, was awarded the Silver Star, two Distinguished Service Medals and the French Croix de Guerre.

He flew 59 combat missions during World War II and led the Military Armistice Commission at the United Nations Command in Seoul, South Korea in 1949.

He also served as the Director of Civil Engineering, personnel director and chief of staff with the Strategic Air Command.

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and Alpha Delta Phi (WaWa) had lower numbers of pledges than in past years.

"Greek membership has indeed risen in the past year," said Phi Psi President Matt Thomas. "This can be attributed to the closure of the Beach, greater enforcement in the dorms on drinking, the loss of E-level and stricter carding at local Baltimore drinking establishments."

"This year's freshmen have been severely limited in regard to a social life here at Hopkins," Thomas continued. "The response has been increased attendance at fraternity parties and an overall rise in Greek numbers this spring."

"I am under the impression that freshman membership did rise considerably," agreed former AEPi president Nick Lewin, though he attributes the growth to "a strong and close freshman class, as well as the competitive nature of the fraternities this year."

Pike President Tucker Gilbert offers another explanation.

"Over the past couple of years, parents have given fraternities a bad name and have scared people away," he said, adding that incidents of fraternity negligence at MIT and other colleges that have been highly publicized.

This year, Gilbert believes that students have begun to rediscover the importance of Greek Life on campus and accept the idea that incidents of negligence are isolated.

Gilbert also maintains that fraternities.

nities at Hopkins are not motivated solely by drinking and parties, like similar organizations at other schools may be.

"For me, [joining a fraternity] is

"For me, [joining a fraternity] is about brotherhood and finding where you fit in the best. In the dorms, it is hard to organize large groups for sports or studying. It is a lot easier for fraternities."

— TUCKER GILBERT, PI KAPPA ALPHA PRESIDENT

about brotherhood and finding where you fit in the best," Gilbert said. "In the dorms, it is hard to organize large groups for sports or studying. It is a lot easier for fraternities."

Hopkins sororities have likewise experienced an increase in growth this year.

Alpha Phi Chapter President Katie Clark explains that each sorority is allowed a quota of pledges equal to the number of women rushing divided by the number of sororities.

This year, the sororities were given a similar quota as last year, but four sororities participated in rush events, while last year there were only three.

"More girls were rushing this year," Clark said. "We reached our quota during rush, and more girls pledged than last year."

Clark speculates that this is because more women enrolled in the School of Engineering.

"There's a techy school saying: 'Work hard, play harder.' Maybe the freshman ladies think like this," Clark said.

At the same time, Clark also guesses that many women rush because sororities at Hopkins offer more than just parties and drinking.

"We aren't in it for the hazing," she said. "We are interested in the opportunities for our futures and the opportunities while in college."

"I decided to rush so that I could meet people, but I wasn't sure whether or not I would pledge," explained Alpha Phi pledge Jill Clem. "Once I met all the sisters in Alpha Phi, I knew that rushing would be a lot of fun."

"I also like what Alpha Phi stands for, a lot of which is dedication to philanthropy and cardiac care," Clem added.

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THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

Rise in Greek numbers indicates shrinking social options at JHU

Nationally, Greek membership has declined in recent years. However, here at Hopkins, many more students joined fraternities and sororities this year than last. Could this be because Hopkins fraternities and sororities have become somehow more appealing than other ones across the country?

Possibly.

But it seems more likely that the rise in Greek membership this year has a little more to do with the fact that there's nothing else to do here.

We are proud of the thriving fraternities and sororities at Hopkins, and we recognize the fact that Greek life consists of more than just partying.

And, yet, we don't think that it's a coincidence that the increase of fraternity members comes at a time when there are fewer social alternatives for undergraduates. We've said it before, and we're going to reiterate: The absence of (a

real) E-Level and the Beach severely limits how students spend their Friday nights.

Will the Student Arts Center help? Maybe. If the entire undergraduate population stops drinking and becomes intensely dedicated to the performing arts.

Clearly, the administration expects too much maturity from its student body.

The University has shut down a lot of socializing at Hopkins this year, and Greek life has profited from it. While it's a great thing for fraternities and sororities, it certainly doesn't say much for the school as a whole.

We're sure that fraternities and sororities will be out to prove that these numbers are not a fluke by keeping up their recruitment successes. And if the University maintains this year's antisocial policies in the semesters to come, the Greeks probably won't have any difficulty attracting more pledges in the future.

News-Letter timing
“inappropriate,”
responds BoE co-
chair Betts

To the Editors:

Though I appreciate you voicing your concern over the appropriateness of having BoE chairs staff and run elections in which they are involved, your timing is inappropriate. Ian and I publicly announced months ago that the board had decided that there was no inherent conflict, and we would be able to sit at booths unaffiliated with the Young Trustee election. At this time, members of the community were encouraged to voice any concerns they had concerning this procedure. We received none. The people at the Trustee office were also fully aware of this decision, and they too saw no ethical conflict. Ian and I did not make, carry, or deliver any Young Trustee ballots. Apt board member Jennifer Johnson was entirely responsible for that election. The Young Trustee election is not an obligation of BoE. We merely allow them to have their ballots at our tables as a service to them and the school. It should never take precedence over the duties outlined for the chairs in the constitution. Ian and I have worked very hard to make the voting process at Hopkins as clean and honest as possible. In the future, please express concerns in a more timely fashion rather than slam us when we no longer have the opportunity to remedy the situation.

Sincerely,

Margaret Betts

The author is the co-chair of the Board of Elections

BoE editorial
passed judgement
without knowing
facts

To the Editors:

I find it amazing how swiftly the Newsletter manages to pass judgment on issues without knowing any facts. To be more specific, last week, the *News-Letter* printed an editorial chastising the co-chairs of the Board of Elections for running for Young Trustee... “their fingerprints are still all over the election, and it looks really unethical.” As the member of the Board of Elections who handled the Young Trustee segment of the last election, allow me to enlighten you as to what actually took place. When the Board found out that our co-chairs were running in the Young Trustee election, we obviously made it clear that our co-chairs would not be allowed to be present at any voting booth where Young Trustee ballots were available. We decided that as long as our co-chairs weren’t involved in any part of the Young Trustee election, they could maintain their positions on the Board.

So, what were their roles in the Young Trustee election process? Nothing. They never touched the ballots, they were never present at any booth where Young Trustee ballots were available, and they basically had nothing to do with any part of the Young Trustee election process. In fact, it is the Board of Trustees themselves who count the votes in the Young Trustee election, so NO member of the Board of Elections (co-chair or otherwise) was present while the finalists were being determined.

Therefore, I ask that if you are one of the responsible parties, that you cease your actions. If you see someone tearing down a poster, I encourage you to inform them that they are violating University policy, and that they are hurting their fellow students.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SLAC apologizes for
overlooking
posting
conventions

To the Editors:

The poster featuring a reprint of the March 9 *News-Letter* article was indeed the work of the Student Labor Action Committee and not the *News-Letter* staff. Though some may have interpreted it otherwise, there was no intent to implicate any other party’s involvement in this poster campaign. It is now recognized that, in our hurried effort to counter statements made by the Hopkins Administration, some conventions were inadvertently overlooked. For that we have been properly chided and again, extend our apologies.

Sincerely,

Joanna Hellmuth

The author is a member of the Student Labor Action Committee.

Removal of DSAGA
posters censures
views and opposes
free speech

To the Editors:

It has come to my attention that one of our campus groups has had complications with their public relations attempts. I am referring to DSAGA and its posters for the upcoming Awareness Day events. In particular, students have been placing posters around campus, only to return later to find them torn down. I find that these actions are unacceptable at our University.

Indeed, the student conduct code calls for us to preserve this institution as a forum for the free expression of ideas. Being a card-carrying member of the ACLU, I recognize that there are students who are fundamentally opposed to the nature of DSAGA’s existence. I would encourage those students to form their own dialogue, and not to censure and prevent DSAGA from getting its message across. We must learn to accept that there are those who have beliefs different from our own, and to allow them to voice that opinion.

Furthermore, these are your fellow students that you are damaging. Much time and effort has been put into preparing for these events, and many could benefit from attending. Most of us are involved with some Student Activities Groups. We should work together to ensure that all of our groups are able to function smoothly. This applies to any attempts made by students to sabotage the operation of student groups.

Therefore, I ask that if you are one of the responsible parties, that you cease your actions. If you see someone tearing down a poster, I encourage you to inform them that they are violating University policy, and that they are hurting their fellow students.

Sincerely,

Shin Inouye

The author is the President of the ACLU-JHU and a member of DSAGA.

Poster removal
“intolerable”

To the Editors:

What are the hallmarks of a university? I believe many of us would answer freedom of speech and thought and a

Do you have something to say?

Send us a letter.

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed two typed, double-spaced pages in length. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Monday at 5 p.m. or emailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the *News-Letter* and cannot be returned. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and clarity. Letters must include the name, address, and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

Courtesy of the USBIG
Educational Foundation
(800)767-2267.



Student newspaper stoppage immoral, anti-democratic

AARONGLAZER FREELY THINKING

provided the fees are distributed in an impartial way.

In effect, the Supreme Court told Morgan State officials their actions were unconstitutional. This was not the first time the Supreme Court argued this way. According to the Student Press Law Center, “The courts have ruled that if a school creates a student news or information medium and allows students to serve as editors, the First Amendment drastically limits the school’s ability to censor. Among the censoring actions the courts have prohibited are confiscating copies of publications, requiring prior review, removing objectionable material, limiting circulation, suspending editors and withdrawing or reducing financial support.”

Whether or not the paper is funded by student fees, the school has no authority to stop publication — even if the paper endorses a candidate. Vivian Ryan’s argument that a student fee-supported paper must remain impartial is constitutionally invalid.

Using Ryan’s argument, all student groups would be required to remain neutral. A Pro-Choice supporter would be very upset to see their student fees being applied to Pro-Life groups. Therefore, student Pro-Life groups should not be allowed to express their views on campus. The absurdity behind this argument is easily apparent. The First Amendment protects all groups, including student publications which endorse political candidates.

Outside the constitutional question, the question of journalistic ethics arises. Morgan State student

body president Julian Dash told *The Sun*, “It is not fair, it is outside the bounds of responsible, moral and ethical journalism, for the paper to prefer one candidate and put down another.” Publications are designed to inform their readers as to the news and events of their society. The editorials express the views of the editorial board, a group of people theoretically informed and in a special position to provide educated opinions. Editorial endorsements, however, are simply opinions and the public understands that. It is not, therefore, immoral or unethical to support candidates. In fact, endorsements allow readers to be better informed and more ready to participate in the democratic process.

Dash himself needs a refresher on the ethics of politics. According to *The Sun*, Dash called Howell and requested to see the paper before it went to press. Howell refused. Dash apparently is more concerned with who the paper was to endorse, rather than the endorsement. Why else would he ask to see the article instead of asking for it not to be run? Regardless, Dash committed serious ethical offenses by requesting to see the issue and, later, assisting in having the issue stopped. Once the political system begins becoming involved in the press, the press loses its impartiality and is unable to keep its readers informed.

Freedom of the press, at all levels, is essential to maintaining the democratic nature of government, whether it be the United States Congress or the Student Government of Morgan State University.

The actions of the university were not only wrong but also directly opposed to everything this country stands for. For that, the university owes an apology to the staff of *The Spectator* and, more importantly, to those people who were injured most: their students.

The author is a member of the Board of Elections.

OPINIONS

Coffee is evil, believe it

JEFF KRZYWON

A BITTER 20-YEAR OLD MALE

I'm not going to admit that I know how to cure what ails this world, but I am going to start with what does. One of the world's worst problems is coffee consumption. I've calculated my yearly intake of coffee and tea products to be over \$900 on average. True, my out-of-pocket bill comes to maybe \$50 of that (I work at a coffee shop and get it for free), but still, think to yourself carefully and figure out how much coffee you drink daily. Think about the number of mochas and coffees you drink each day (here comes some easy math so skip ahead if you wish), multiply that by the price of these drinks and that's your daily coffee intake. Then multiply this by 365 and there's your yearly intake. If you're anything like me, that daily intake is about \$2.75 which brings your yearly intake to over \$900.

If you don't drink coffee, don't even think about starting. Coffee is evil. Coffee makes you think you're awake when you're really not. It gives you a false sense of motivation only to knock you down three hours later. It even kicks you when you're down by making you feel more tired than before you drank aforementioned coffee. Also, an addiction to caffeine is expensive. The average drip coffee (for those of you who can drink it without getting an immediate ulcer) costs about \$1.25 comparing various coffee houses on and around campus. The average mocha is over two times this amount at about \$2.75. If soda gets you buzzed (don't even think about coffee) that's at least \$1.00 each.

The sellers of coffee are the worst, though. They know it's addicting and purposely market towards people when they're under the age of 20 (I've worked for two different coffee shops, they really do this) to get people addicted while they're young and to make a killing as they get older. Not only are they getting rich off of an addiction, they pay the people who work for them shitty wages (I started at \$6.00 but have since been given raises). On top of that, many shops pass out frequent buyer cards of some sort to tempt people into buying a certain amount of drinks at their store in order to get a free drink (after buying 9 or 10, usually). On top of it, they charge outrageous amounts for drinks because they realize addicts are willing to pay an inexcusable amount to feed their ad-

dition.

All coffee isn't bad, though. Decaf is okay in some respects. It doesn't give you a fake high because it has very little caffeine (obviously); however, it does have caffeine. Some people don't realize this. If it's a coffee product, it has some form of caffeine in it, no matter what. The decaffeination processes currently used can remove around 90% of the caffeine from coffee beans, but not all of it. So, just because you drink decaf doesn't mean you're about to not get any caffeine in your cup.

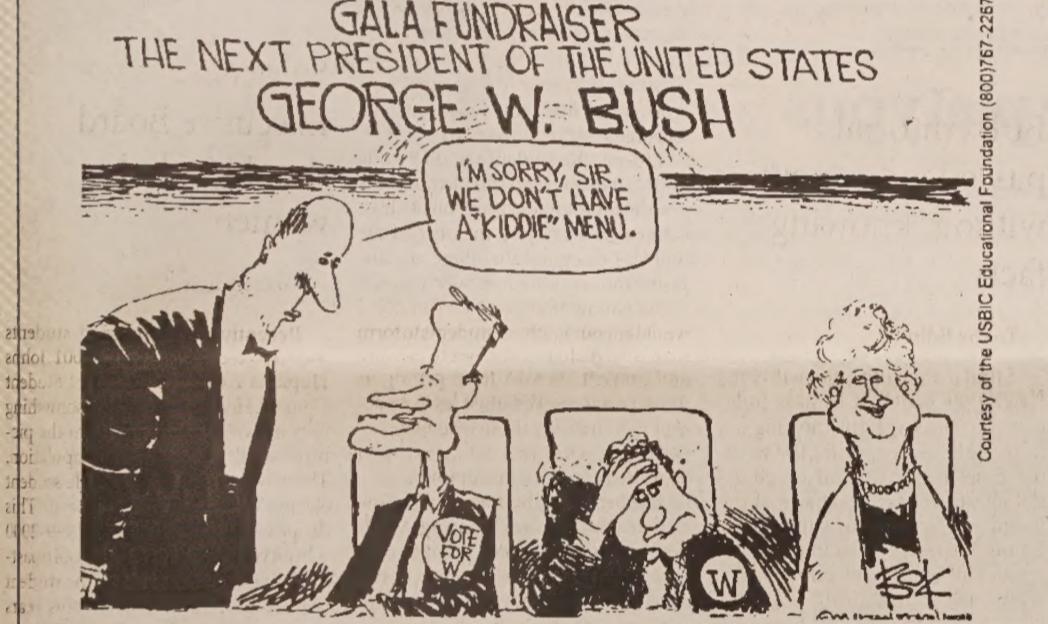
However, I don't understand the concept of decaf coffee anyway. It's a hot black liquid that tends to taste worse than normal coffee (usually from the decaffeination process used) and on top of it, has very little of the precious awake juice to get you going in the morning. People I've talked to say they just like the taste of coffee, which I must say is bullshit. Coffee tastes like crap and I'll be the first one to tell you this. I always used to tell people I like coffee, but recently, I haven't been able to drink it because I can't stand the taste. It tastes awful, burns your tongue when you try to drink it too quickly, and when you wait for it to cool down a little, it cools down too much and it tastes even worse than before.

So basically, coffee is a nasty black sludge that no one in their right mind should ever drink, but it is damn addictive and I know I have a craving for a warm cup o' Joe right now. Must resist temptation... Must resist... must... I have to go. I'm falling asleep and need some more coffee. Damn addiction.

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GEORGE W. BUSH

I'M SORRY, SIR.
WE DON'T HAVE
A KIDDIE' MENU.

Courtesy of the USBCI Educational Foundation (800) 767-2257



Protesting the apathy fallacy

LIZ STEINBERG
SPECIAL GIRL

Welcome to the most apathetic campus in the nation. Here at Hopkins, we don't care about anyone or anything. In fact, all we do is sit in D-level.

Ok, I'm being facetious. Does it show? Despite what everyone says, I don't think we're an apathetic campus at all. By everyone, I mean the average Hopkins student, when asked to reflect upon the collective nature of the student body. The fact that we place such stock in this trite cliché discounts itself by the sheer definition of apathy, which means 'not caring.' If we're going to go to such great lengths to explain to ourselves and/or the general student body how apathetic we are, that clearly is a contradiction of terms.

The topic of student apathy recently came up over lunch. In fact, it directly followed a discussion of campus politics. The same students, who had been voicing their (need I say: strong) opinions on an array of campus policies and issues, essentially stopped in their tracks in order to convince me and each other of their complete and total apathy when it came to the Hopkins community. One self-proclaimed non-caring student not only declared his apathy, but also described in detail the extent that he went to in order to maintain this state of consciousness.

Now, let's re-examine this situation. I'm sorry, but I fail to believe anyone who goes to such great lengths to maintain their apathetic state is truly as apathetic as he or she would like others to believe. That itself is a contradiction. It's an image, plain and simple. In fact, I got the impression that our lunchtime discussion had turned into a competition of who could appear the most apathetic. Well, you all lose. Anyone who has gone through the mental loops to form an opinion on the involvement level of the student body, or their position there within, has shown some aspect of interest, and therefore no longer has rights to the infamous A-word.

So the next question is, why do Hopkins students call themselves apathetic? Is this a term we bestowed upon ourselves, or merely adopted in response to someone else's opinion? Admittedly, we are not a campus of activists. But not staging a weekly protest is different from being apathetic. Just because you don't have an opinion on every facet of every issue, you're not necessarily placed among the ranks of the apathetic. You don't need to know and understand every angle that exists to a cause. There's just too much out there.

Here's my theory — those who choose to call the student body apathetic are merely encountering a lack of support for whatever cause or issue they themselves adamantly support. Ok, as a whole, we may be apathetic when it comes to specific issues, for instance, those involving national politics, student politics, or human rights. But this is in no way an indication of a general sense of apathy.

If you were to sit down and think after discarding preconceptions about the student body as a whole, you would have no problem figuring out what Hopkins students do care about. And the sarcastic response is, schoolwork. As the argument goes, that would be the biggest problem at Hopkins: all we care about is schoolwork, so therefore we're apathetic. Admittedly, there is more to life than schoolwork, but don't discount it for what it is. Re-examine that statement — the word 'apathetic' is used in connection to 'care.' Once again, a contradiction of terms. Guaranteed, there are places, let alone schools, where people care as much about their work as they do at Hopkins. If you don't believe me, start looking. And then you might be on the trail of true apathy.

Schoolwork aside, almost everyone at Hopkins is involved in something other than class. As the stereotype goes, there are some students who really don't do anything aside from camping out in D-level, but I don't believe this is the norm. Considering that we all got into this school on the merit of our extracurricular activities in addition to our SATs and GPAs, we as a group are used to keeping busy. We are a campus of doers.

If you've ever walked across the freshman quad on a weekday afternoon, you'll realize the middle-school students imported to Homewood from the inner city schools were not brought here by our collective apathy. And the volleyball and football players are putting some stock in their pick-up game of the sport of choice.

And beneath the surface, less visible to the tour groups, we go to religious services, we come out (6000 strong, including Princeton fans) for Lacrosse games, we join student groups (at the very least, study groups), we socialize. We follow our interests.

So, what conclusions can one draw from this? What conclusion should one draw? You can discount student involvement in activities such as the middle-school mentor program as mere resume fodder, that we really don't care about community or country or family values after all, but the fact of the matter is that Hopkins is out there, doing stuff. Are we self-serving? Yes. Not to start accusations, but the majority of the student population is undoubtedly self-serving in some way, shape or form. But to call us self-serving is still an acknowledgement of a general sense of caring at some level. So, at the very worst, if you truly believe that every Hopkins student participating in an activity aside from or including schoolwork has no genuine interest in helping others, or you would like to discount the positive value of self-enrichment, call us self-centered. But please, not apathetic.

Jewish and Chinese similarities

NATALYA MINKOVSKY

POLITICALLY
INCORRECT

During a recent conversation with a Chinese friend of mine, a thought struck me. The Chinese and the Jews have much more in common than one would guess them to have. Hear me out, keeping in mind that I am writing about older generations of both Chinese and Jewish people. The theory holds even stronger if the people in question were not born in the United States.

Two qualities shared by the Chinese and Jews were strikingly similar throughout the conversation. They are saving everything and buying everything in bulk. As my friend and I talked about the kitchen cabinets and pantries of our homes, we could not help but laugh at how interchangeable his Chinese household could be with my Jewish one.

Jewish people save everything. I call it Jewish Recycling. Things like wrapping paper and gift boxes are circulated for as long as possible. A friend of mine recently sent me a holiday gift in a box that I had used to send her birthday gift several months earlier. The beautiful part was that another friend had given the box to me during first semester. As I recognized the box my gift had arrived in, beat up and torn in places from multiple uses, I was filled with pride. This friend is not Jewish, but her numerous Jewish friends are starting to rub off on her.

Apparently, the Chinese have Chinese Recycling. Just like in my house,

anything from plastic bags to aluminum foil to glass jars is washed out and saved for future reuse.

My Chinese friend told me about cabinets filled with plastic containers of all shapes and sizes. Who needs to buy Tupperware when you can wash out an old cottage cheese container or a jam jar? "Tupperware is for white people," commented a third generation American Jew.

So, if they do not buy Tupperware, what do the Jews and Chinese people shop for?

It does not matter what they buy, as long as it is in bulk. And when I say bulk, I mean bulk. Maybe this all stems from our Communist backgrounds. When something is available, you buy as much of it as you can because it is not going to be in the store for long.

To illustrate my point: When I was home for spring break, my mother bought toilet paper. She came home from work and handed me her keys and a large bag (a bag from a bargain clothing store — why waste a garbage bag when you can reuse another bag?). "I bought some toilet paper. Get it from the trunk of the car." I wondered about the size of the bag that my mother had given me. How much toilet paper had she bought? I opened

the fairly roomy trunk of our car to find that it was filled with rolls upon rolls of toilet paper. Lugging the bag into the house, I asked, "How many rolls are in here?" My mother replied, "Forty-eight, I think," nonchalantly, as if filling up the trunk of your car with forty-eight toilet paper was the most normal thing to do.

This did not surprise my Chinese friend. "In my house we have a whole room of the basement filled with paper products," he told me. "Toilet paper, paper towels."

He told me that everything in his house is bought in bulk. From the way he described it, it sounds like his family could run a bulk food warehouse out of their home. And why not? You never know when you might need thirty-seven cans of peas.

The Jews and Chinese people share something beyond their love of Chinese food. They share what an anti-Semite or a racist might call "cheapness." Call it whatever you want. I call it practicality, brought on by years of Old Country lifestyle. This newly discovered bond with my Chinese friends makes me feel a connection with them. I am proud of sharing an aspect of my heritage, if you will, with a group of people who could not appear to be more different. There is also a certain relief in knowing that if I happen to be snowed into the house of a Jewish or Chinese family, we will not run out of paper towels or canned tuna, even if the snowstorm lasts for weeks (or months, or years).

Meal plan funds for-profit prisons

JULIE EISENHARDT

ACTUAL REALITY

Another lunch, another dinner, more tasteless food, more overpriced food. The story of the cafeterias on campus gets boring after a couple of days. But the food you eat is not just overpriced and tiresome, it's also a major contributor to the for-profit prison industry. And it's all thanks to Hopkins' contract with a not-so-friendly corporation called Sodexo Marriot Services.

While Marriot, before its merger, invested primarily in cafeterias, hotels, and restaurants, its merger with Sodexo had it suddenly heavily invested in building and sustaining private prisons. Sodexo's 11% holdings in Prison Realty Trust/Corrections Corporation of America make it the largest investor on the planet in the world's biggest for-profit prison company. This investment helps the growth of the private prison industry, and hence, the loss of some basic human rights that inmates would have had in public prisons.

The Sodexo-Marriott Services conglomerate makes about \$1.2 billion a year from the over 400 campuses with which it holds food service contracts. That money enters a pool which is divided between further food service and hotel development and prison investment. So, yes, that meal plan you're basically required to buy here, it funds a for-profit prison industry.

The Sodexo-Marriott Services conglomerate makes about \$1.2 billion a year from the over 400 campuses with which it holds food service contracts. That money enters a pool which is divided between further food service and hotel development and prison investment. So, yes, that meal plan you're basically required to buy here, it funds a for-profit prison industry.

What's so bad about for-profit prisons? Lots. It puts private monetary interests into the judicial system. Now, think about the corruption that such interests have caused our legislative system and imagine that involved in the system that prosecutes criminals. The for-profit prison industry makes more money when more people are sentenced to longer terms and when more people are denied parole. They also make more money by underpaying guards, not providing guards with appropriate training, forcing inmates to work for little or no pay and denying inmates decent food and health care. It comes as no surprise, then, that mistreatment of inmates and escapes are common at these private facilities. Plus, most of these facilities take prisoners from out of state, sending inmates far away from their families and making visits nearly impossible. The private prisons also stand highly unregulated, unlike their public counterparts, and have a powerful lobby in Congress to keep it that way.

I'd also like to underscore the terrible labor practices involved for both employees and inmates of private prisons. While their public prison counterparts receive fair compensation and good benefits, private prison guards tend to make low hourly wages with poor benefits if any. They also receive poor training. As a result, these guards are far more likely to abuse inmates, mismanage the prisons, allow escapes, and violate basic human rights.

At the same time, the prisoners work in higher proportions than inmates at public prisons at far lower pay rates. Their jobs are not stamping license plates or washing laundry but working in clothing production, telemarketing, and other industry positions. This lowers the wage floor for the non-incarcerated workers around the nation while it forces the inmates to work at wages that are wholly unfair.

I think it's really great that Sodexo Marriot Services is starting to incorporate more vegetarian and kosher meals into the campus meal plan, but for people of conscience, none of the food should suffice. We need to take action to disconnect our campus from these human rights abuses and deny Sodexo Marriot Services contract renewal. If this campus is truly committed to its motto — "Veritas vos liberabit." (The truth shall make you free), it will take this truth to heart and free the campus from our ties to this disgraceful corporation. Call our friend President Brody (516-8068) and tell him to tell Sodexo Marriot that if they don't divest from private prisons, our campus will end ties with them. Then maybe we can eat in peace and justice.

Appreciate the great outdoors

JENNIFER SVARA

FRESH AIR

Spring break found me in Utah — Salt Lake City, to be precise. Coming from Annapolis, a city which is practically below sea level, the site of the Rocky Mountains took my breath completely away, and seeing mountains every direction I turned made the experience even more amazing. One afternoon I went to a local deli and, upon noticing the unhindered view of snow capped mountains just a few miles away, felt compelled to point out this incredible vista to the cashier attendant. She just nodded in agreement, saying, "Yep. They're over there all right." At the site of my stricken face, she kindly added, "I suppose we forget how pretty they are." This lackadaisical response astounded me. I suppose I have always had this naive impression that, although people may not ceaselessly do their utmost to protect nature, when confronted by its sheer beauty, they must be struck by it, even if only on some subconscious, instinctive level. Just as even the most ardent atheist can be moved upon entering an ancient cathedral, even the most strident oil and timber rights advocate should feel some stirrings of wonder and awe at the serene bliss of creation. At least one would hope so.

How do people so easily begin to take for granted this world's precious sanctuaries? I have never understood how anyone could not flinch at the thought of logging national forests, yet perhaps the cashier's reaction explains

case, then this grand nation suffers from a lack of moral awareness. My friends always ask me why I have a "Save Wild Utah" sticker on my car. I do not have a "Save Wild Maryland" sticker to go with it, and I had never, until last week, even seen Utah. Yet I am still willing to write Congressmen, call the Capitol switchboard, and harass anyone willing to listen about Utah's endangered wild places. My friends probably — no, definitely — think I am crazy. They always ask why I need to worry about protecting Utah. I don't live there. I don't generally visit there. I will probably never see the wild places I am helping to save. So why should I care?

My answer is that if I don't help fight for those places, who will? Why does the Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club make Utah's environment a top priority? Because too many people in Utah don't. And someone has to stand up to that. Someone has to prove that America, the land of the free, reserves those freedoms for all, even the ones without voices. Even the trees, and the animals, and the rugged mountains. But this fight can't be won by one group alone. It needs a quiet, unnoticed change in people's actions and attitudes. Don't pick the flowers; stop, smell them, appreciate their beauty, and leave them to grow. Don't just walk past the beauty all around us. Take a few moments of your time to realize how much we have. And how much we have to lose.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Cone shares his exciting journey of how he created the better contraceptive

BY BRIAN KIM

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Today, there are alarming rates of abortions and sexually transmitted diseases in the world. On Tuesday March 28, Dr. Richard Cone talked about the events of his life and his research to find powerful solutions to this serious health issue as guest speaker for the Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series.

Currently, Dr. Cone is a professor of the Biophysics Department. The first part of his lecture was about what inspired him to do research on contraceptives.

Initially, he began his research on the physiology of the eye, but he wanted to contribute something directly applicable to society. He knew that studying proteins and membranes in the eye would not have that type of direct impact on the world.

In 1978, on his first sabbatical, he went to the School of Hygiene and Public Health (now called the School of Public Health) for a year and decided to make a full turn-around in the type of research he was doing. He decided to make better contraceptives: contraceptives that not only prevent pregnancy, but also prevent the spread of STD's.

But why contraceptives? He mentioned that the invention of the pill, considered one of the most effective methods of birth control, was partly responsible for the spread of

STD's. The pill allowed the growth of sexuality in our nation during the '60s and '70s, a time when our culture was defined by its 'free love' mentality. However, though it may prevent pregnancies, it does not protect against STD's. The effects of those times can be seen today such as the higher incidences of STD related infertility in women.

Dr. Cone shared some startling statistics. In the US, the average rate of abortion was about one per lifetime of a woman. Currently, approximately one in four college students contract a STD before they graduate, and about one in every two people contract a STD during their lifetime.

But such statistics are startling because they are quite unknown to the public. "It's a hidden problem," says Cone. The sexual taboos prevalent in today's society prevent us from being open about such important issues.

He began doing research to create a contraceptive that provided dual protection against STD's and pregnancy.

His research was a bold step. "I headed off into uncharted territory," stated Cone. It was difficult at first to raise money for his research. This branch of research was not the most attractive field. Scientists were more interested in finding vaccines against

STD's rather than preventing them from infecting.

The current options on the market were far from perfect. The female condom is one of the very few op-



Dr. Richard Cone has come a long way.

tions a woman has to prevent contracting STD's, which can be unappealing to some women. The male condom is also undesirable to some men as well.

Understanding that a contraceptive is only as effective as one's willingness to actually use it, he tried to design a more convenient, desirable method of contraception that was safe and effective.

The Buffergel provides a powerful alternative to the current products on the market. Buffergel works by maintaining a low pH in the vagina. Sperm and many STD's are acid sensitive. The vagina is acidic. Therefore, this acidic environment should destroy any sperm or STD that enters the vagina. However, semen is alkaline and can effectively neutralize the vagina's acidity for hours allowing the sperm and STD's a window of opportunity. Buffergel, prevents this neutralizing effect of semen.

Studies have shown that Buffergel is completely safe and non-irritating. It is spermicidal and microbicidal, thus preventing pregnancy and STD's. A compact, flexible cup coated on both sides with Buffergel is inserted before intercourse and removed afterwards.

It can be inserted anytime, unlike the male condom, which can only be used right before intercourse. And unlike the female condom, it is not visibly exposed after insertion.

Buffergel is safe and effective, and possesses a higher level of convenience that may prove to be a more desirable contraceptive than what is currently on the market. It is presently being tested for efficacy, and it may come out on the market within the next five years.

Dr. Cone has come a long way, and through all his trials and experiences, he has provided a powerful alternative to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

Everything you need to know about the platypus

ARMANDOEI

ARMIE'S ANIMALS

The first platypus lived when dinosaurs still lived on the earth, more than a hundred million years ago. Most people know what a platypus is. It is a duck-billed mammal that lives in Australia and lays eggs.

But that is just about everything that most people know about the strange animal.

The platypus, also known as *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*, is found in over half of the waterways of greater Melbourne. They spend most of their lives underwater, so they are rarely seen.

However, platypuses are all too common. They have been found in the Yarra River, nearly ten miles from downtown Melbourne.

Short legs keep the platypus close to the ground, making it resemble a furry reptile or amphibian. But platypuses are amphibious mammals, similar to beavers and otters.

A platypus has dense fur that traps a layer of air next to the skin. This

provides excellent insulation for the animal when it is foraging underwater. The front feet of a platypus are webbed. This webbing extends well beyond the claws to form large paddles.

Webbing on the rear feet — which is used mainly for steering — does not extend beyond the claws. Each foot, both front and back, bears five clawed toes.

A platypus can remain resting underwater for up to ten minutes, but while searching for food, its maximum dive time is only two minutes.

Weighing one and a half to six pounds, the platypus mainly stays hidden during the day. When night falls, the small mammal begins its work. An adult platypus may travel up to four miles on its night hunt.

Instead of infantile premolars, the platypus loses these teeth as an adult, subsequently developing oral grinding pads to smother its prey.

A platypus diet may consist of snails, tadpoles, small fish, crayfish, freshwater shrimps, horsehair worms and aquatic insects like larval dragonflies.

When hunting, the platypus prowls slowly across the streambed. Its eyes and ears remain closed, and it relies on touch and electroreceptors in its bill to detect the movement of prey.

An adult platypus consumes up to 30 percent of its weight in food each day.

Because the animals feed and live in the water, they leave almost no sign of their presence on land. Footprints, tracks, and food scraps are at a minimum.

A female platypus lays up to three eggs every spring. These eggs stick together to prevent them from rolling around. The female platypus burrows in a nest deep in the ground. The entrance can be found at the edge of streambeds. The female tucks bundles of wet leaves under her tail (which she folds forward), and drags them into the nest. The wet leaves prevent the eggs from becoming too dry.

Entrances to platypus homes are often hidden beneath undercut banks or just below the water's surface. These nesting burrows extend as much as a hundred feet from the stream's edge.

To protect their young from flooding and predators like carpet pythons,

mothers block off the entrance to the tunnels with plugs of soil. Whenever entering or leaving the burrow, they destroy or rebuild these plugs for maximum security.

When the young are born, they are about an inch in length, blind and naked. Unlike most mammals, female monotremes have no teats.

The mother's milk simply oozes out onto a patch of fur, which the young platypus sucks on.

Nourished on their mother's iron-rich milk, the young emerge from the burrow after about four months, fully furred and a little over a foot in length.

Males have a sharp venom-secreting barb on their ankles.

This is probably used to compete with other males during the spring mating season.

The platypus venom is not deadly to humans, but can cause severe pain and swelling.

The platypus is faring well these days, but its population was not as large as it was before urban development. They were once wanted for their thick furs, but later environmental laws and restrictions were implemented to protect the platypus population.

Debris like six-pack holders and fishing line can get caught around the platypus's legs and neck, causing them to suffocate.

Ten percent of the animals that have been discovered in the Melbourne area had these types of human debris stuck to their bodies.

Viagra-linked heart problems rare

Reassuring new data released Tuesday suggest that heart problems triggered by Viagra are extremely rare.

Doctors from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston analyzed 82 separate studies of Viagra, the widely used impotence medicine.

They said deaths and heart attacks among Viagra users were about what would be expected in middle-aged and older men in similar physical condition.

Many men with erectile dysfunction also often have heart trouble, since both conditions can have the same underlying causes, such as diabetes, high cholesterol

and high blood pressure.

"These are men with lots of risk factors, and lots of them will have heart attacks and die, whether or not they are taking Viagra," said Dr. Murray A. Mittleman.

"We know that sexual intercourse itself can trigger a heart attack."

Mittleman combined study data on 4,497 men who got Viagra and 3,136 who took dummy pills.

There were 21 heart attacks or deaths among the Viagra users and 12 in the comparison group.

But the Viagra users were followed up longer, and when this was factored into the results, the risk of heart attacks or death was virtually the same for the two groups.

"These data are reassuring and suggest that treatment of erectile dysfunction and resumption of sexual activity are not associated

SCIENCEBRIEFS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A new microlaser-guided scalpel aids in removing tumors

BY BRIAN KIM

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

A small, biological laser allows surgeons to accurately cut away malignant tumors while minimizing the amount of healthy tissue removed.

The scientists at the U.S. Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories have designed a 'smart scalpel' method that detects cancer cells as a surgeon cuts a tumor. Such tumors are difficult to differentiate from the obscuring blood, muscle, fat and healthy tissue that often times makes it difficult for surgeons to make accurate incisions.

Studies have shown that Buffergel is completely safe and non-irritating. It is spermicidal and microbicidal, thus preventing pregnancy and STD's. A compact, flexible cup coated on both sides with Buffergel is inserted before intercourse and removed afterwards.

It can be inserted anytime, unlike the male condom, which can only be used right before intercourse. And unlike the female condom, it is not visibly exposed after insertion.

Buffergel is safe and effective, and possesses a higher level of convenience that may prove to be a more desirable contraceptive than what is currently on the market. It is presently being tested for efficacy, and it may come out on the market within the next five years.

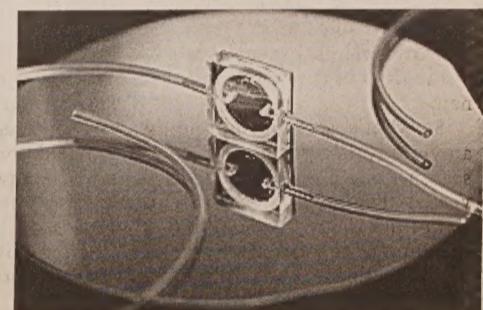
Dr. Cone has come a long way, and through all his trials and experiences, he has provided a powerful alternative to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies.

microcavity laser gives direct, accurate results of cancerous cell concentration immediately as the surgeon makes the incision. This allows for far less guesswork and error in tumor removal.

The laser is based on what is called the semiconductor fabrication technique. Such a laser would cost from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Compared to the \$100,000 benchtop sized flow cytometry machine, the microcavity laser is also more affordable and smaller. And unlike the cytometers, the microcavity laser does not require a small room, highly trained operators, and a large laser.

Sandia researchers have been working with such microcavity laser structures for more than two decades. Contrary to what the scientific community believed, these researchers succeeded in joining layers of crystalline materials that are only a nanometer thick. In doing so, they formed a vertical cavity laser in the form of a single lattice. Once thought impossible (because the small dimensions were not thought to permit laser operation), Sandia researchers constructed a microcavity laser from compound semiconductor materials.

This device, constructed from nanometer-thick layers of gallium aluminum arsenide sandwiched between



Dime-sized microcavity laser detects cancer cells.

nanometer-thick layers of gallium arsenide, made it possible to create efficient lasers that are very tiny. The middle layers of the sandwiched structures are energized to emit photons. These photons are then reflected by the layers below and above it that act as mirrors.

Although only one laser is necessary to pass through a cell to determine its protein density, more channels and lasers can be added to increase the speed of the technique.

Recently published papers about the microcavity laser project can be found in *The Journal of Biomedical Microdevices* and *The Proceedings of the Biomedical Optics Society*.

Sandia is having preliminary discussions with several biotech firms to commercialize the technique. As development continues, this method of microdetection could also be used as an inexpensive and fast way to monitor the biological and chemical content of groundwater, waste, or explosive chemicals. Currently it is already capable of detecting blood protein abnormalities such as sickle cell anemia.

For more information, go to Sandia National Laboratories at www.sandia.gov.

UPCOMING LECTURES AT HOMWOOD AND JHMI

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Dr. Mark A. McNiven
Mayo Cancer Center
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

"Pinching in new places: multiple functions for the large GTPase dynamin in membrane trafficking"

Noon, JHMI, WBSB 110

Thursday, March 30, 2000

Dr. Judith Bender
Johns Hopkins Medical School
"DNA methylation and gene silencing of and endogenous gene family in *Arabidopsis*"

4 p.m., Homewood, Mudd 100

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Dr. Jim Hurley
National Institute of Health
"Structural genomics of protein domains in signal transduction"

4 p.m., Homewood, Mudd 100

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Dr. Min Han
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
University of Colorado, Boulder
"Cell signaling, differentiation, and migration during *C. elegans* vulval development"

Noon, WBSB 110, JHMI

Thursday, April 13, 2000

Dr. Gabriel Waksman
Washington University
"Structural basis of chaperone function and pilus biogenesis"

4 p.m., Homewood, Mudd 100

Wednesday, April 26, 2000

Dr. Graham Warren
Department of Cell Biology
Yale University School of Medicine
"Mitotic division of the Golgi apparatus"

Noon, 110 WBSB, JHMI

Protein engineering is employed to discover a cure for Alzheimer's

After watching a movie called *Deep Blue Sea* along with a multitude of other movies over Spring Break, I noticed the augmented importance of research in our lives.

The movie was basically about a gung-ho scientist trying to save the victims of Alzheimer's by creating a protein complex from the brains of sharks. The scientist violates a research contract by increasing the brain mass of the sharks. The sharks become smarter and chase after the humans as a result.

It was a surreal experience considering the sheer number of Hopkins students involved in research — a good majority of the people here — and our dynamic research atmosphere.

On top of that, the parallelism of the pre-med researchers and the gung-ho scientist literally gave me goosebumps.

At a superficial level, watching LL Cool J as a cook and Samuel Jackson as an experienced scientist was rather entertaining, and the soundtrack wasn't too bad either.

Recently I read an article on research done by Christopher Dobson of Oxford University and his collaborators that was almost identical to the movie.

He demonstrated a viable cure for Alzheimer's by unfolding and engineering a protein that resists forming amyloid, a fibrous protein that is responsible for causing the disease.

In 1906, a German neurologist, Alois Alzheimer, first found the 'amyloid plaques' characteristic of the disease that now bears his name.

So what's so important about amyloid resistant proteins? A research done a few years ago revealed that only a few proteins out of the 100,000 or so found in the human body were able to form amyloid; this was largely because

CHONGYI SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

those proteins were defective.

But last year, Dr. Dobson discovered that proteins don't have to be defective to form amyloid; instead, many will do so in the right conditions.

Proteins are long chains of smaller molecules called amino acids. An amino acid consists of a carbon atom with four groups of atoms attached to it: these are an amine group, an acid group, a hydrogen atom and a fourth chemical group that can be any one of 20 different clusters of atoms.

Amino acids link together to form a protein when amine group on one reacts with the acid group on the next. These links form a common 'backbone' to the protein, and what makes proteins different from each other is the order of the variable groups, often called as side chains.

Before a protein is ready to operate, it must twist itself into a three-dimensional arrangement, like an enormously complex pretzel — not the ones you see in *Terence*.

Amyloid is severely different from this pretzel shape: It consists of long, straight fibrils that can bond together to form structures called beta pleated sheets.

At first, most scientists thought that amyloid formed because mutated side chains were interacting with each other in ways they were not supposed to. But a few years ago, researchers noticed the similar structures of amyloid fibrils in different proteins. This suggested that amyloid fibrils formed from interactions between bits of the backbones, rather than the variable side chains.

Dr. Dobson further discovered that even proteins unaffiliated with

the disease could form amyloid through backbone interactions. He and his collaborators confirmed it with a protein acylphosphatase, which they placed in a solution containing a chemical called trifluoroethanol.

Trifluoroethanol is a compound that opens up the pretzel-shaped structure of a protein. In its unfolded state, a protein's backbone is exposed from its normal position deep within the folds.

Once the backbone is exposed, the acylphosphatase starts to form fibrils. Then, these fibrils act as seeds that encourage larger amyloid to grow.

In 1906, a German neurologist, Alois Alzheimer, first found the 'amyloid plaques' characteristic of the disease that now bears his name.

Since all proteins have the same backbone,

Dr. Dobson and his group believe that they would all form amyloid if they can 'unfold' under the right conditions.

It has been known for quite a while that mutation in a protein can encourage amyloid formation. Dr. Dobson and Dr. Serrano have shown that mutations can actually suppress it, and do so without any change in protein's structure and function.

Protein engineering could be used to treat and even to prevent amyloid diseases by allowing the manufacture of drugs that stabilize the parts of the protein at risk. It can also lead to gene therapy that will allow cells to produce proteins that will not aggregate.

Insomnia is a common disorder that is influenced by many factors

The college lifestyle contributes many causes of sleep disorder

ELIZABETH HWANG HEALTHWISE

College students have sleeping problems. We obviously have problems staying awake during lectures. But did you know that there are a good number of insomnia sufferers as well? People who cannot fall asleep? You might think they're lucky since they don't need to worry about professors catching them drowsing off, but they have their own share of problems.

Insomnia is a disruptive pattern of sleep that may include difficulty falling or staying asleep, falling asleep at inappropriate times, excessive total sleep time or abnormal behaviors associated with sleep.

More than 100 different disorders of sleeping and waking have been identified. They can be grouped within four main categories: 1) problems with staying and falling asleep, 2) problems with staying awake, 3) problems with adhering to a regular sleep schedule and 4) sleep disruptive behaviors.

Insomnia can include any combination of difficulty with falling asleep, staying asleep, intermittent wakefulness, and early-morning awakening. These intermittent episodes may be transient, short-term (lasting 2 to 3 weeks), or chronic.

Illness, depression, anxiety, stress, poor sleeping environment, caffeine, abuse of alcohol, heavy smoking, physical discomfort, daytime napping, certain medical conditions and counterproductive sleep habits such as early bedtimes and excessive time spent awake in bed are common factors.

The different disorders that have been identified are: psychophysiological (learned insomnia), delayed sleep phase syndrome, hypnotic dependent sleep disorder and stimulant dependent sleep disorder.

Insomnia can even involve problems with staying awake. This disorder of excessive sleepiness is called

hypersomnia and it includes: sleep apnea, narcolepsy, myoclonus, obstructive sleep apnea, isolated sleep paralysis, central sleep apnea, idiopathic hypersomnia, and respiratory muscle weakness associated sleep disorder.

Sleep apnea affects middle-aged obese males, causes breathing to stop intermittently during sleep and results in excessive daytime sleepiness. Narcolepsy is a condition of daytime sleep attacks in spite of adequate sleep at night that can affect either sex in early adult life. According to this description, we may be most susceptible to the condition. Nocturnal myoclonus is a condition characterized by periodic lower-leg movements during sleep, sleepiness or complaints of insomnia.

College students may be prone to insomnia since problems with adhering to a regular sleep schedule aggravates the disorder. Judging from our behavior, all those overnights and subsequent hibernating periods may be the cause of our problems.

Problems may also occur with maintaining a consistent sleep and wake schedule as a result of disruptions of normal times of sleeping and wakefulness. This occurs when traveling between time zones and with shift workers on rotating schedules, particularly with nighttime workers.

These disorders include: sleep state misperception (the person actually sleeps a different amount than they think they do), shift work sleep disorder, natural short sleeper (the person sleeps less hours than "normal" but suffers no ill effects), chronic time zone change syndrome and irregular sleep-wake syndrome.

Does your roommate sleepwalk? He may suffer from parasomnia. Ab-

normal behaviors during sleep are called parasomnias and are fairly common in children. They include sleep terror disorder, sleep walking, and REM behavior disorder (a type of psychosis can develop related to lack of REM sleep and lack of dreaming).

Illness, depression, anxiety, stress, poor sleeping environment, caffeine, abuse of alcohol, heavy smoking, physical discomfort, daytime napping and counterproductive sleep habits are common factors.

Sleep terror disorder is an abrupt awakening from sleep with fear, sweating, rapid heart rate and confusion. The individual usually does not remember the event. It may also be caused by an organic brain syndrome, reactions to drugs, psychopathology and medical conditions in adults.

The prevention mechanisms are obvious. Maintain regular sleep habits and a quiet sleep environment because this can usually prevent the sleep disorder. However, the best thing for college students seems to be to wait until junior or senior year when they move into a single apartment.

WANTED
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The Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award is funded by the Second Decade Society of the JHU Alumni Association to recognize excellence in teaching.

Any instructor, lecturer, assistant, associate, or full professor who has taught at any level on a regular basis in the School of Arts & Sciences for at least three years is eligible.

Submit the name and a brief letter of nomination, no longer than one page, to Suite 237 Mergenthaler Hall or e-mail your nomination to bacon@jhu.edu. Reply by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2000.

Excellence in Teaching Award Selection Committee
c/o Steven R. David, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
3400 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

SPORTS

Venus Williams, brawl in Seattle, and NBA playoffs

I predict Shaq Diesel to take over, the Answer over Air Canada, Wolves chipping the Twin towers, and Zo taking care of the Hornets

Someone came up to me and asked me why I don't give love on my column to anything else but the NBA. I responded by saying that I'm the David Aldridge of Hopkins, but he shot back by accusing me of being Ahmad Rashad.

Hey, I took offense to that. Let's get something straight here. I don't follow Michael Jordan around constantly blowing up his already enormous ego.

I don't go on talk shows idolizing Jordan, telling the world how great a player and person he is and that everyone should be bowing at his feet.

I don't go around the League calling every player "my main man" and kissing their feet. I don't think I've ever heard of Rashad criticizing any player.

But I think that someone had a point. I give too much love to basketball, not enough love to other sports. Hey, it's not that I don't follow other sports.

I'm what you call a sports addict.

So I'm perusing the headlines, looking for things to write about.

I could write a little about baseball. Opening game was at Tokyo, and the Mets sucked. Mike Hampton, the runner up for Cy Young last year, couldn't throw strikes.

Must be the jet lag. I still have high hopes for the Mets.

Sports Illustrated picked the Red Sox to win it all. Too bad that SI just cursed Boston. It's what you call the "Sports Illustrated Curse".

Something always goes wrong to their pick.

I liked Boston this year. Not anymore.

Ok, bored already. Not enough to write about. Roger Kim just about exhausted baseball with his extensive preview the past two weeks.

How about College Ball? Have you seen such a weird Final Four? I threw my bracket out after the second round. I like Florida and Michigan State in the finals.

The Florida/North Carolina matchup is intriguing, but afterwards, it's gonna be boring. MoPete, Mateen and Bell by 50 over the Baby Gators (a little exaggerated, but you get the point).

Ok, bored. Running out of things to write about. Hey, how about tennis? Venus Williams is about to re-

Shaq is the MVP, hands down. If any writer, sports news people, whoever votes for this thing don't vote for Shaq, they're crazy.

tire, according to her dad. What am I doing? I'm writing about Venus Williams, the man disguised as a woman? I might as well write about Brian Boitano and figure skating. I must be losing it.

Sorry folks, but it's back to being Aldridge. I realize that you just can't



EDDIECHO CHO'S LAST WORD

give too much love to basketball.

Shaq is the MVP, hands down. If any writer, sports news people, who ever votes for this thing don't vote for Shaq, they're crazy.

If I have to give one statistic that should prove beyond a reasonable doubt, it would be 3.7, as in 3.7 assists/game.

That's far better than the "established passing bigmen," such as Vlade Divac or Arvidas Sabonis.

That numbers comparable to Vince Carter and Allen Iverson. Shaq excels at every facet of the game. Give him the trophy, now.

Anyways, why aren't people talking about the possibility that the Lakers can win 70 games, joining the 1995-1996 Chicago Bulls as the only team in history to win 70 or more?

There's 11 more games left, and the Lakers are playing well. The toughest games are probably the two

remaining games with San Antonio and one game at home against the Kings.

No reason to think the Lakers can't end the season with another double digit winning streak.

What's up with the Sonics. A few weeks ago, everything was clicking. Gary Payton was doing his thing. The supporting cast was stepping up, playing tough defense, rebounding, and hitting the big shots at crunch time.

The Sonics are fumbling as they have lost four straight. GP is still doing his thing, but the other guys just aren't on the same page.

To make things worse, Payton and Vernon Maxwell got into a huge fight in the locker room after practice Monday. These two are very notorious talkers, and that led to a fist fight.

GP allegedly picked up a chair, and Maxwell went in search of a free weight, presumably to use as a weapon. To make things worse, Horace Grant hurt his shoulder and Chuck Person injured his knee separating the two.

Things are heating up in Seattle, and I really don't think that the Sonics will patch this up quickly. Seattle had a chance to move up in the standings. But now, I believe that Seattle will be the eighth seed.

That's bad news for them, because Seattle has no big man to at least body Shaq.

So this is how I see the matchups in the playoffs as the regular season winds down.

The Lakers will play eighth seed Sonics. Sonics have no chance

against Shaq and Co. Lakers in three.

Second seed Utah will play the seventh seed Phoenix. I really think Phoenix will fall dramatically without the services of Jason Kidd, gone with a fractured ankle.

Kevin Johnson, coming out of retirement, is not the answer. You can't replace a triple double every night. Utah in four.

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Kevin Johnson, coming out of retirement, is not the answer. You can't replace a triple double every night. Utah in four.

Third seed Miami versus sixth seed Charlotte. Who should I pick; the gimpy, stumbling Heat or the fractious, combustible Hornets? Mourning factor too much. Miami in five. But it's gonna be one ugly series. Stay away!

Fourth seed Philadelphia versus fifth seed Toronto. This is the only series that is worth watching. The question is, who'll step up in crunch time? Too tough to call. The referees might decide this one. I'll say the 76ers because they have home court.

Hmmm, anything else to discuss? Oh yeah. Did you guys watch the NBA on NBC broadcast last Sunday?

If you did, are you as annoyed as I am that every two seconds, the broadcast was reminding the viewers how many points Shaq needs to surpass Iverson for the scoring title?

Who cares? There's still three weeks or so left in the season! Very stupid, if you ask me.

Ok. I think I'm done now. Oh, and on a side note, I think the Bud commercial is hilarious, and I'm looking forward to the upcoming one.

If you haven't seen it, you're missing the greatest thing since we were introduced to raising the roof.

Ok, I'm out.

The Final Four and a farewell to my beloved Connecticut Huskies

Even if we didn't go out as champions, we were supposed to go out at least looking like champions. I could have accepted a loss to a superior team, where their A-game was simply better than our A-game. A loss to an opponent that outplayed us. I could have eventually come to terms with, after years of extensive therapy.

But I will never accept this horrible loss to Tennessee. As much as I hate to admit it, UConn needed a healthy Khalid El-Amin and was not the same without him. Our backup point guards were very inexperienced, since they saw so little time playing behind Khalid during the year.

Maybe it would have been better if Khalid hadn't tried to play, but the competitor in him had to give it a go. I can't fault him for that at all.

Now I know what Cincinnati feels like. To work so hard all season and then to lose your best player right when it counts the most is just a horrible feeling. It feels unfinished, and it's just not fair.

Nobody ever said life is fair. Try telling that to Kevin Freeman. The image of him sobbing in his coach's arms as his college career came to an end will haunt me forever.

Freeman and Jake Voskuhl deserved so much better. They brought Connecticut a National Championship last year and we will never forget that.

As much as the sharp-shooting and



CARAGITLIN COLLEGE HOOPOLY

flashiness of Ray Allen and Khalid is appreciated, players like Kevin and Jake are what Connecticut basketball has always been about. Before UConn started attracting the McDonald's All-Americans, there were players like Donny Marshall (not to be confused with Donyell Marshall) and of course Ricky Moore, the tough guys who do the dirty work without getting a lot of the credit. I will end my little tribute to Jake and Kevin with this: I'm going to miss you guys.

With a tremendous amount of upsets, we are left with Wisconsin, North Carolina, Michigan State and Florida. I don't think I will be making

too bold a statement by saying that the average college basketball fan does not give a crap what happens at this point. I knew that there would be a lot of upsets this year, but I never expected to see this combination of teams in the Final Four.

I was rooting for Iowa State after Seton Hall was eliminated, but the refs made sure that Iowa State did not get themselves a trip to Indianapolis.

The Michigan State-Iowa State game was a dogfight; it was very exciting. A couple of questionable calls late in the game went the Spartans' way, so Michigan State is going to the Final Four for the second straight year.

The double technical on Coach Larry Eustachy after one of those iffy foul calls sealed the win for Michigan State. I can't blame Eustachy for losing his cool; it's hard to sit there and watch the refs take the game out of your hands. To his credit, Eustachy did not publicly place any blame on the officiating after the game.

Michigan State has got to be the favorite to win it all right now, but Florida looks pretty interesting to me. They haven't lost their cool yet; don't be surprised if they make a good showing this weekend. They beat Duke, and that's a plus in my book. But I am done predicting anything.

When Gonzaga beat St. Johns two Saturday's ago, I enjoyed it immensely. My, it looks like the smugness of Mike Jarvis, which rivals only the smugness of Bobby Valentine, fi-

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SPORTS

Tennis squeaks by Catholic University

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

After a convincing shutout victory over Western Maryland, the Blue Jays traveled to the regionally ranked Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

The match started out poorly for the Jays as they dropped two of three doubles' matches, falling behind 0-1 in the match. The number two doubles' duo of Andrew Chu and Sion Roy lost 3-8 in a match that saw them trail most of the way.

The number three doubles' team of sophomores Ashish Lall and Erhan Bedestani fell 4-8, despite being up a break early in the match.

The lone sparkler in doubles for the Blue Jays were the number one doubles team of captain Jamie Saxe and freshman Kevin Alford, who continued their doubles dominance with an 8-6 win.

In singles, the Blue Jays quickly evened the match at 1-1 when Ashish Lall won 6-1, 6-4 at number six singles. Catholic fought back however, quickly jumping out to a 3-1 lead with wins at numbers four and five singles. Sion Roy, playing four for the Jays lost 6-7 (6-8), 1-6, and Geoff Gross, playing five lost 2-6, 3-6.

Hopkins was not through, however. Jamie Saxe dominated his opponent at number one singles, winning 6-3, 6-0, to bring JHU within one point of tying Catholic.

Junior, Andrew Chu, despite split-

ting sets at number three singles, managed to pull out a tiebreaker that was played in place of a third set due to darkness (6-4, 3-6, 7-4).

With the match all squared at 3-3, freshman Kevin Alford was left at number two singles. Alford fell behind quickly, losing the first set 1-6, but the second set was a completely different story. The talented freshman from O'Fallon, Illinois won a hard fought second set 7-5 in a tiebreaker. The players decided to play out the third set despite the impending darkness.

The tide turned once again, as Catholic's Deke Polifka broke Alford's serve early to take a 2-0 lead. Alford, resilient once again, broke back to tie the match at 2-2, only to get broken again and fall behind 2-4. Down 2-4, it looked as if the Jays' hopes of winning were doomed. Alford was not to fail, however.

After a long rally, Alford hit an improbable drop volley that served to rally his emotions. He quickly went on a four game tear that ended the match in a win for JHU.

In exhibition matches, the doubles team of Geoff Gross and Greg Gazillo won 8-6. Gazillo, playing exhibition singles as well, won his match 7-5. Erhan Bedestani played the last of the exhibition singles matches winning 6-1, 6-1.

The Jays' season opening two match win streak came to a striking

halt last week when they traveled to Florida for Spring Break to take on NAIA powerhouses, Northwood University and St. Thomas University.

The Jays first took on St. Thomas University in North Miami, Florida. The match looked to be close a close one as the Jays were able to win one of three doubles matches.

The number one doubles duo of captain, Jamie Saxe, and freshman, Kevin Alford improved their record to 3-0 with an 8-2 win.

However, Andrew Chu and Sion Roy fell 4-8 at number two doubles, despite having led 4-3 on serve early on. Ashish Lall and Henry Huang fell behind 1-5 and fought back to 4-5 before losing three straight games and the match.

The Jays only fared worse in their singles matches. Kevin Alford, Sion Roy, Sean Rogers and Ashish Lall lost their matches in straight sets. Captain, Jamie Saxe, lost at number one singles against Andrew Alarcon, who formerly had achieved a top 250 ranking on the ATP tour.

"While we were disappointed with the loss, it was good to play such a competitive team, as we will have to face similar competition in conference rival Washington College," said co-captain Dan Kreeger, who remained out of the lineup due to an ankle stress fracture.

The Jays returned home from Spring Break to prepare for conference-rival Dickinson, whom they will face on Tuesday, March 28 in a pivotal away match.

Sean Rogers and Ashish Lall fell 1-8 at number three doubles.

The singles matches would only get worse for the Jays. All six starters lost their matches in straight sets. Captain, Jamie Saxe, lost at number one singles against Andrew Alarcon, who formerly had achieved a top 250 ranking on the ATP tour.

The lone shining light to the Jays singles lineup was captain Jamie Saxe, who pulled off an improbable comeback against St. Thomas' Hugo Colchado. Colchado stormed out to win the first set 6-1, and looked to have the match well in hand, but Saxe turned his game up a notch, and Colchado found himself unable to hold back the charge.

Saxe pulled out the next two sets

winning the match 1-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7-4).

Next, the Jays traveled to West Palm Beach, Florida to take on St. Thomas' conference-rival, Northwood University. Northwood boasted a 14-5 record entering the match, a number one doubles' team that was ranked second in the nation in NAIA, and a 9-0 victory over St. Thomas earlier in the season.

The Jays were quickly downed in doubles, as Saxe and Alford fell 2-8 at number one doubles. Andrew Chu and Sion Roy fell 3-8 at number two doubles, despite having been on serve at 3-2 during the early part of the match.

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JHU Men's swimming finishes fifth, Women eighth at the NCAAs

BY CARA GITLIN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

named the 2000 NCAA III Men's Swimming Coach-of-the-Year for the second time in his career.

The women's team finished eighth overall, tied for the second-highest finish in school history. Kenyon again finished first, and host Emory finished seventh.

Freshman Stephanie Harbeson, the UAA Swimmer of the Year, turned in an outstanding performance. Harbeson took second place in the 1650 free (17:01.98) and the 500 free (4:56.91) and finished third in the 200 free (1:53.35). All three of her times broke school records.

Senior Emmanuel Job placed seventh in the 100 fly (50.77) and 14th in the 100 free (46.93). In addition, Job was the only swimmer who was a member of all five JHU relay teams placing in the top nine. Job swam on the second-place 800 free relay team, as well as the fourth-place 400 free relay team (3:06.67), the sixth-place 200 free relay team (1:24.79), and the seventh-place 400 medley relay team (3:25.97), all of which earned All-America honors.

JHU got impressive individual performances from sophomores Will Freund and Brett Fisher. Freund placed eighth in the 500 free (4:39.06), 13th in the 200 free (1:42.21) and 18th in the 1650 free (16:22.52). His efforts garnered him All America honors in the 500 free and honorable mention All-America honors in the 200 free.

Senior Blake Hardin was a member of the 400 free relay, the 200 free relay team, the 400 medley relay and the 200 medley relay team. Luke Schroeder swam on the 200 free, the 400 medley, and the 200 medley relay teams.

Freshman Justin Brannock also was a member of the 800 free relay team, the 400 free and the 200 free. Brannock also placed fourteenth in the 200 free individually. Brannock earned honorable mention All-America honors with his individual finish in the 200 free.

Junior Kris Lewis placed fifteenth in the three-meter dive with a score of 363.95 and 19th in the one-meter with a score of 361.35.

Head coach George Kennedy was

Track and Field Returns to Homewood Field

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWSLETTER

On Thursday March 16th, the Blue Jays Track team made a wet and rainy return to Homewood Field. The meet against Goucher College was reportedly the first home meet in at least six years. Despite the inclement weather, the Jays made it a memorable occasion for the small group of hardcore track fans sitting in the stands.

The men gave the Gophers a thorough shellacking, winning 107 - 6.

The top scores for the Blue Jays were freshman Quinlan Amos and sophomore T.R. Steffens. Amos won the 100m dash (10.8 s) and the 200m dash (22.1 s). Steffens won the shot put (39' 1") and the discus (118').

The most common number for the

Jays that day was 1-2-3. The men swept the scoring in an incredible six events, including the shot put, discus, 200m dash, 800m dash, 1500m run, and the 5000m run. The Blue Jays managed to take at least first and third place in every event.

The story for the women is very similar. The Lady Jays also won handily by a score of 69 - 21.

Leading the way were freshman Jackie Evans and Tricia Quartley. Evans won both the shot put (33' 5") and the discus (94' 5"). Quartley took first places in the high jump (4' 8") and the 200m dash (29.4 s.)

The women took their share of 1-2's in the meet. Blue Jays managed to place first and second in the 400m dash, 1500m run, and the 3000m run.

The Gophers scored two first place

finishes by Alicia Rivers in the 100m dash and Jen McCulley in the 400m dash. Hopkins won all other events.

This meet was just the first in a series of small meets the track team has lined up to help them prepare for the big meets to come. On March 28, Hopkins took on Gettysburg, Messiah, and Columbia Union at Gettysburg.

The annual Swarthmore dual meet will happen on April 8th, and promises to be a tooth and nail fight to the finish.

During April, the Blue Jays will compete at large invitationals at Gettysburg, Widener, and Millersville. These meets will let the team see what they are really made of, and earn qualifying marks for the all-important Centennial Conference championships during the first week of May.

In other news, JHU sports information announced last week that several school records were broken during the 1999 - 2000 indoor track season.

For the men, the record breakers include Quinlan Amos in the 55m dash (6.6 s, Jan. 22 Lebanon Valley Invitational) and the 200m dash (22.75 s, Mar. 4 ECAC Championships), Rich Huggins in the 55m hurdles (8.15 s, Mar. 4 ECAC Championships), and Brian Nichols in the pole vault (14' 1.25", Mar. 4 ECAC Championships.)

The new women's record holders are Heather Relyea, Nikki Gross, Lylian Wisler, and Stephanie Black in the distance medley relay (12:59.18, Mar. 4 ECAC Championships), and Stephanie Black in the 5000m run (18:58.96, Feb. 26 Centennial Conference Championships).

KITCHEN OPEN

11 A.M.

GAMEDAYS

PJS PUB

PACKAGE GOODS

'TIL 2 A.M.

3333 North Charles Street
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D.J. TUES NITES 10 P.M. 'TIL 2 A.M.

OPEN 7 DAYS 'TIL 2 A.M. • KITCHEN OPEN 'TIL 1 A.M. EVERYDAY

CALENDAR

Saturday

Men's Lax vs. North Carolina, 3 p.m.

Monday

Baseball vs. Williams College

Tuesday

Baseball vs. Coppin St.

Thursday

Men's Lax vs. Villanova, 7 p.m.

Women's Lax vs. American, 4 p.m.



SPORTS

DO YOU KNOW?

When Men's lax last won the national championship, George W. Bush's father had not yet become President and no current Hopkins undergraduate was yet in junior high.

Men's Lax looks to gain control of the season

The Blue Jays need the win over Tar Heels to break two-game losing streak and survive one of the toughest schedules in the nation

GEORGE C. WU

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

After losing to top-ranked Syracuse at the end of regulation, because one of three referees ruled that freshman Bobby Benson's last-second goal came after time expired, the Johns Hopkins men's lacrosse team desperately needs to put together a complete game to get back into winning form.

Johns Hopkins (1-3) and North Carolina (6-2) meet in a battle of two teams desperately looking for a victory. Both the Blue Jays and the Tar Heels enter the game looking to snap two-game losing streaks. The Blue Jays dropped a 16-8 decision at second-ranked Virginia last Saturday, while North Carolina fell to seventh-ranked Maryland, 10-9 at home. Johns Hopkins has not lost three straight since 1990, while the Tar Heels had a four-game losing streak and a three-game losing streak last season.

This week's game against North Carolina is the annual benefit game for Johns Hopkins lacrosse. One dollar has been added to the price of all tickets with all extra proceeds going to the Johns Hopkins Children's Center. Staff members from the Children's Center will also be holding various raffles through the course of the game with all money raised going to the Center as well. The Blue Jays are now in their third year in the battle against cancer. Chris Gardner, who would have been a senior on last year's team, died in the fall of 1997 after a battle with cancer and the Blue Jays dedicated the 1998 season in his memory. Since 1998, Johns Hopkins has raised nearly \$20,000 and made charitable donations to the American Cancer Society and the Johns Hopkins Children's Center, where Gardner received his treatment.

While Homewood undergraduates enjoyed spring break last week, the men's lacrosse team got down to business against the top two teams in the nation. The seventh-ranked Johns Hopkins men's lacrosse team trailed top-ranked Syracuse by five goals (13-8) on the road with less than nine minutes remaining in regulation. After Ryan Powell and Joe Ceglia scored in the first two minutes of the final

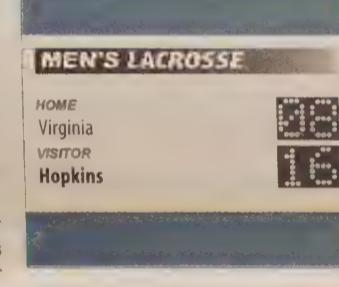
quarter, Syracuse appeared well on its way to improving to 3-0 and securing its top spot in the polls. But junior Conor Denihan scored his fifth goal of the game to cut the margin to 13-9 with 8:18 to play and Dan Denihan scored just 1:52 later to make it 13-10. Syracuse killed most of the next four minutes, but left the door open in the final minute to give Hopkins one last chance.

A.J. Haugen's third goal of the game with 45 seconds left made it 13-11 and the Blue Jays won the ensuing faceoff and called timeout to set up a play. Freshman Bobby Benson, who had been held scoreless for 59 minutes, then buried a shot from 15 feet out to make it 13-12 and set the stage for a thrilling, if not controversial, ending.

A battle for the ensuing faceoff resulted in a loose-ball push against Syracuse, giving Hopkins possession with just six seconds remaining. Haugen took the ball on the Hopkins side of midfield and launched a pass into the Syracuse goal area, where Benson somehow came up with the ball and slipped it past SU defender Marshall Abrams, who was back covering the open net. Two of the officials immediately ruled the goal was good, setting off a wild celebration



Eric Wedin and the Blue Jays often showed signs of brilliance but could not avoid losses to Syracuse and defending national champion Virginia.



on the Hopkins' sideline. However, the third official quickly stepped in and waived the goal off, saying time had expired before Benson had scored.

The final score stood at 13-12 and the emotions quickly changed from exhilaration to disbelief on the Blue Jay sideline.

Early on, it appeared as though JHU might run away with the game as the Blue Jays sprinted to a 3-1 lead 12

minutes into the game on a Haugen goal and back-to-back goals by C. Denihan in the first 12 minutes of the game. But, despite out-shooting Syracuse, 16-3 in the first quarter, JHU held just a 3-2 lead at the end of the period as Michael Springer scored with just five seconds remaining in the first quarter for Syracuse, igniting what would be a 9-2 SU run.

Syracuse would lead 8-5 at the half and 10-5 midway through the third quarter after a goal by Powell. Back-to-back goals by Conor and Dan Denihan made it 10-7, but Syracuse scored three of the next four goals to make it 13-8, setting the stage for the frantic finish.

C. Denihan led Hopkins with his five goals and one assist. His five goals tied his career high, while his six points are a career high. D. Denihan added two goals and two assists, while Haugen added three goals. Brian

Caracaterra made nine saves in goal for the Blue Jays, who had a 58-26 advantage in shots and a 20-7 advantage in faceoffs.

Syracuse was led by Springer, Powell, and Liam Banks, who all scored three goals in the game. Springer and Powell each added an assist, while Josh Coffman had a game-high four assists for Syracuse, while also got 17 saves from Rob Mulligan.

Next up was defending champs, Virginia. Sophomore attackman Connor Gill scored two of his four goals and had one of his two assists during an 8-1 Virginia run in the fourth quarter as the Cavaliers knocked off visiting Johns Hopkins, 16-8 in men's lacrosse. The second-ranked Cavaliers improve to 4-1 with win while the Blue Jays fall to 1-3 with the loss.

Virginia led just 8-7 entering the fourth quarter, but scored two goals in the first 3:25 to extend the lead to

10-7. After Johns Hopkins' Benson drew the Blue Jays to within 10-8 with his fourth goal of the game with 9:15 remaining, the Cavaliers scored six unanswered goals in the final 6:17 to account for the final scoring. Gill and David Bruce both scored two goals during the final 6-0 run for Virginia, which registered its largest margin of victory ever against Johns Hopkins.

The Blue Jays appeared to have momentum on their side entering the final period as they had out-scored Virginia, 4-1 in the third quarter to trim a 7-3 halftime deficit to 8-7 entering the final period. Benson scored a pair of goals in the first six minutes of the period to make it 7-5 and fellow freshman attackman Adam Doneger added the first two goals of his career in a span of less than a minute late in the period to make it a one-goal game.

Virginia scored seven seconds into the fourth period and the Blue Jays would get no closer than two of the way in dropping their second straight.

Benson led the Blue Jays with a career-high four goals, while Doneger added two goals, and Haugen and Rob Frattarola also scored for Hopkins. D. Denihan added a team-high three assists for the Blue Jays, while Caracaterra made 14 saves in goal. The three assists give D. Denihan 72 in his career and move him into 11th place on the all-time list at Johns Hopkins.

Gill led a balanced Virginia attack with his four goals and two assists, while Bruce, and Jay Jalbert both scored three goals for the Cavaliers. Drew McKnight chipped in with two goals and three assists as the Cavaliers out-shot Johns Hopkins, 42-35.

Baseball victorious in 14 of the last 15

BY CHRIS LUI

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Hopkins Blue Jays Baseball team (14-3) have been busy over the past few weeks. After coming home from Florida with a 9-1 record, there only loss coming 6-0 to West Liberty State, the team has been on a tear, beating Teiko Post (16-0), Johnson and Wales (15-1), Villa Julie (14-6) and Catholic (8-5).

The team has won 14 of its last 15 games. Catcher Johnny Craig attributes the team's success at the UAA Tourney for setting the tempo for the season.

The victory at the UAA was an all-around team effort, with offensive production coming throughout the whole batting order. Karl Sineath hit around .600, while Osama Abdelwahab and Ben Taylor batted over .500. Johnny Craig, Adam Frain hit over .400.

The pitching was solid day in and day out throughout the tournament with Yanni Rosenberg winning two games, including the championship game against Emory (13-3).

Among the victories was an amazing come from behind victory against Washington University, where the team trailed 10-4 at one point only to storm back with 8 unanswered runs for a 12-10 victory.

The pitchers seem to be getting more comfortable on the mound as Jason Setty and Yanni Rosenberg have shown poise and leadership on the mound," said Craig.

Osama Abdelwahab added that the team is keen on being a dominant force.

"We have one or two more games before then, and we would like to go into the conference with 16-17 wins, sending a message that we are ready to reclaim the title."

However, the team lost two key

members of the team to injuries. Lead-off man Karl Sineath and pitcher Brett Gutterman both went down during the tournament and their loss puts pressure on the remainder of the team to step up and perform.

Among those honored included first basemen Osama Abdelwahab who got the nod as UAA MVP. Abdelwahab hit .500 during the tournament, tied for second on the team with 10 runs scored and tied for first with four doubles.

In the game against Johnson and Wales, sophomore pitch Jason Setty pitched four hit ball over five innings to earn his second win of the season.

J.R. Taylor, Tom Prevas and Mike DePalma were the offensive catalysts, all hitting home runs to lead the team offensively.

The offense exploded for 12 runs in the first four innings on five home runs and never looked back. Johnny Craig powered the offense going 2 for 2 with a two run homer, three RBIs and three runs scored.

Adam Frain went two for four a solo shot, two RBIs and three runs scored. Adam Karson, Mike and Ben Taylor each added home runs in the win.

In the victory over Catholic, the offense was slowed down, gathering only six hits, three of them home runs, with the final one coming in the 12th inning.

On Sunday, the team destroyed Neumann College 26-16. This Saturday, the team begins its conference schedule. Abdelwahab says the team is keen on being a dominant force.

"We have one or two more games before then, and we would like to go into the conference with 16-17 wins, sending a message that we are ready to reclaim the title."

However, the team lost two key

Women's Lax extends win streak to 5

BY CARA GITLIN

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

A five-game winning streak for the Johns Hopkins University Women's Lacrosse team has all but erased the memory of their 0-2 start to the season. After a 20-4 pounding of Holy Cross on March 10, the team reeled off wins against Mount St. Mary's, Davidson, Stanford and Notre Dame (Ind.).

JHU's most recent victory came against Notre Dame of Indiana on March 25. With 18 seconds left in the game, sophomore Erin Wellner scored off a rebound of a Danielle Maschuci shot to give JHU a two-goal lead and seal the 9-7 win. Wellner also had scored with 11:47 left to increase JHU's lead to 7-5. Senior tri-captain Maschuci then scored with 3:54 to play after Notre Dame had cut the lead to 7-6.

Notre Dame jumped out to a 3-1 lead, but then sophomore Erin Dennis scored three straight goals to give the Blue Jays a 4-3 advantage. The game was tied at five with 20 minutes to play in the second half before JHU took the lead for good.

"We're making fewer and fewer mistakes each game," said Dennis, who scored three goals in the game. Maschuci scored three goals and Wellner had two. Sophomore Jamie Larrimore also scored for the Blue Jays.

JHU had no assists in the game. Senior tri-captain Sara Love made 10 saves in goal. The two teams had met in the preseason and JHU came away with the victory. Despite the pre-season win, this time around "we were expecting it to be tight," said Dennis, "but we knew we could win."

With her three goals, Maschuci moved into third place all-time at Johns Hopkins with 214 career points. During the current five-game winning streak, Maschuci is averaging 3.2 goals per game.

On March 16, JHU broke a 1-1 tie with Mount St. Mary's by scoring 9



Jamie Larrimore helped women's lax erase the memory of their 0-2 start.

unanswered goals in the first half. Larrimore and freshman Meghan Burnett each scored five goals to pace the Jays, and Wellner had five assists.

After the 9-0 run by Hopkins, Mount St. Mary's scored two straight goals to make the score 10-3, but JHU scored four more goals before halftime to increase their lead to 14-3. Four of Wellner's assists game during this nine-goal span. A four-goal run to open the second half stretched the lead to 18-3, and the final score ended up being 22-6.

Maschuci scored three goals and also had an assist. With her four points in the game, Maschuci broke the 200-point mark for her career. She is just the fourth JHU player to surpass 200 points. Dennis added three goals for the Blue Jays.

This was JHU's fourth win in as

Mary's. Last season JHU beat them by a score of 19-4 and had anticipated an even greater margin of victory this time around.

In their first home game of the season, Hopkins faced Davidson on March 18. Hopkins had only a three-goal lead at halftime, but the game was no longer close in the second half as JHU prevailed 17-7. "We definitely had a few lapses, but we overcame those," said Dennis.

Larrimore tied a career-high with six goals for the Blue Jays. She scored her first goal just 34 seconds into the game on an assist from Wellner. Hopkins had a 5-0 lead with just under 20 minutes left in the first half. JHU lead 9-1 at halftime and went on a 5-2 run to start the second half. Dennis never got closer than 14-7. "For the most part, we're happy with how we played," said Dennis.

Maschuci scored all three of her goals in the first 11 minutes of the game. Burnett also had three goals, and Dennis and Wellner both had two. Sophomore Larissa Whitney also scored for the Blue Jays. Wellner and Maschuci both had two assists and Dennis had one.

"We love playing at home," said Dennis; "we're definitely comfortable with our field." Hopkins took 40 shots to Davidson's 17, while Davidson had 20 turnovers to JHU's 12. Love made five saves in goal for the Jays.

Last season, Hopkins beat Stanford on the road on a score of 14-8 and Love made 18 saves in the game. This year, on March 22 at Homewood field, Hopkins extended their winning streak against Stanford with a 16-6 victory. This was the third straight loss for Stanford.

Maschuci, Larrimore and Burnett each scored four goals for the Blue Jays. Wellner had three goals and three assists. Dennis recorded one goal and Maschuci also had an assist. Sophomore Christy Peterson had two assists. Love made six saves in the game.

With a 4-0 start to the game and an 11-2 halftime lead, the Blue Jays were well on their way to victory. Hopkins ended the first half strong with a 7-1 run. With 16:10 left in the second half, Stanford scored three unanswered goals to pull within 11-5, but JHU scored four straight goals of their own after that to seal the victory.

The two early season losses to highly ranked teams in North Carolina and Duke "definitely gave us a quick look at what we didn't want to happen," said Dennis. The losses showed the team that "we still have a lot to learn," said Dennis, but right now "our game is just falling into place."

Up next, Johns Hopkins will host Brown in the first ever meeting between the two teams. JHU will then travel to Lehigh on Saturday. The Mountain Hawks are "not a team to take lightly," said Dennis.

The B Section

FEATURES, ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, AND MORE! • MARCH 30, 2000

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER

Quote
of the
Week

"Pick your afro,
daddy, because
it's flat on one
side."

—Erykah Badu



FOCUS

"Memory is a strange thing..." and we've got plenty of it. Revisit your childhood, learn about oral history, and pursue general strangeness with the Nostalgia Focus. • B2

FEATURES

Looking for an adventure? Maybe you should check out Gunpowder State Park. Now that there aren't any serial killers hiding out in the woods, it's only half as dangerous. • B3

Hey, you're a Hopkins student. There's a good chance you live or have lived in the 'burbs. Is it really all that bad? • B4

The Features staff continues their Spring Break tour of the states. • B5

A & E

The good news: John Cusack's new movie, *High Fidelity*, is definitely worth a look. The better news: Cusack's just as cute as you remember. • B6

Unskinnybop, baby. You heard right — Poison is at it again. Relive the glory days of hair bands with their new disc *Crack a Smile*. • B7

CALENDAR

The usual listings of schedules. If you need to find anything from theatre shows to live bands to film festivals, this is the place to check it. • B8-9

QUIZ

Step up to the plate and see if you can hack the QM's pitch in this week's baseball quiz. • B12

Spring Break in the Lower 48

Hopkins students didn't get accepted into the first American research university based on the German model for nothing. Hear how a few students made the most of Break, even when stuck in the 'burbs.

PART I: TALKIN' IT UP

BY KATHY CHEUNG

As we poor overworked Hopkins students resume our academic torture, we find ourselves unexpectedly handed a "welcome back" gift: those four magic words that offer us at least a week's respite from those awful silences in the elevators: "How was Spring Break?"

The adjectives abound, and viola, we've created something rarely found at Hopkins: conversation.

The destinations varied. Some students explored Europe, some went to warmer climates, and some simply went home. Whatever the case, Hopkins students scattered in the wind in the traditional fashion of college students in search of adventure befitting their youth.

apologetic shrug. With fellow students who have stories and anecdotes galore, it's understandable. Descriptions like "fabulous" and "I had the time of my life" seemed to be reserved for the globe-trotters.

One popular destination was London. It had many attractions, the greatest of which seemed to be the flight itself. London-goers described with enthusiasm the luxury of business class — complete with personal TVs, Nintendo and complementary brandy, no questions asked. Nevertheless, London itself was still something special. "It was awesome," said sophomore Harley Hayden. "I saw a lot of rain and a lot of castles."

Pub-hopping via the Tube provided nocturnal entertainment. Plenty of anecdotes to be found there. To summarize: check out a pub called Filthy McNasty's, and don't get Budwieser in England. They run close to five dollars there.

London offered interesting insights into the often-stereotyped natives. "The English don't hate Americans — they hate the French," said sophomore Matt Giuliano. "One of my friends got pulled off the Tube by a French lady who wanted to get on."

Spain provided chances to dust off high school Spanish vocabulary and show off the American suavity to the gorgeous Spanish women. "All Asian dudes should go to Spain," said sophomore Xiao Ma Jueing. "We're a sexual novelty there." Despite this, he still came home single.

Orange trees line the streets of Sevilla, breath-takingly vivid against the grayness of a passing thunderstorm. In this case, however, beauty was not found on the inside, as those oranges proved to taste extremely bad.

As is true for most of Europe, everyone in Spain smokes. The Spanish lifestyle baffles travellers with its seeming randomness. Dinner is at 11

o'clock. Apparently, life does not start until after then, as remarkable traffic jams typically characterize the streets at 4 a.m.

Some students ventured south of the Equator for excitement. Sophomore Sam Shabeer summarized his trip to Rio de Janeiro with classic Hopkins succinctness: "I got a little sunburned, but otherwise,

it was pretty cool. We went to the beach all day and went to clubs all night. It was great!" Others trekked to the Bahamas to get some sunshine, a fickle blessing in Baltimore. Most came back enviably darker and healthier, making up for the pasty white complexion they earned hibernating in the bowels of D-Level during midterms week. One audacious guy even had red and yellow beads braided into his short brown hair.

As for me? I went home to Long Island. No place special. Saw old friends, went clubbing, that sort of thing. But when anyone asks, I just tell them that, dammit, I had an absolutely fabulous time — just to make conversation.

PART II: MIAMI VICES

BY ANTONIA LEE

You've become a Hopkins vampire, identifiable by dark under eye circles and pale skin from shunning daylight for the shelter of the MSEL as you cram for midterms. All you have to look forward to is a bus ride home to a dreary land-locked suburbia of television and sleep. You dream of warm, balmy weather, aquamarine water, and sun-kissed skin, but where are you going to find a deal within your budget with break less than two weeks away?

Well, I wasn't living the hermit's life while studying, but I was definitely ready for some R and R on the beach! I was determined to return from break with tan lines. I was fortunate enough to get a good flight/hotel combo to the Spring Break Mecca right here, no passports needed. That's right, can you say Flor-ee-da? Everyone I knew including myself was headed towards chic South Beach passing up the usual Floridian hot spots of MTV fame such as Daytona and Panama City. I had images of



A typical New Jersey driveway, grass freshly mowed. What bliss!

Will Smith in a bright ruffle-y shirt dancing in my head.

Just kidding. I swear "Welcome to Miami" did not play in my head once during my trip. I did notice, however, an abundance of neon signs similar to the ones in Will Smith's video, and pink and green seemed to be the colors of choice for houses as well. The first thing I did when I arrived at the hotel was check out the beach from my ocean view balcony. The water was spectacular! The sun reflected on a crystal clear more green than blue never ending ocean. It was light green by the shore and dark green-blue as it headed towards the horizon. And the weather was perfect during the whole trip; intense sunlight would stream in at 7 a.m. It was always breezy and pleasant, without a touch of humidity, even at night. Everyday I would get up and go directly to the beach all day. The sand was a smooth white underneath my feet immersed in clear aquamarine water. I had traveled two and a half hours to relaxing bliss.

The nightlife in South Beach buzzes

into the early morning hours as clubs stay open until 5 a.m. All the clubs are within walking distance of each other, and there is always some kind of event going on every day of the week. I went to one club called Level which spun Hip Hop all night, and had girls and guys wearing next to nothing grinding up some serious friction. Clubs aside, South Beach was just a nice place to walk around. In every direction are outdoor cafes and boutiques selling the skimpy neon clothing that natives seemed to be born to wear. Rollerblading is popular here, especially with shirtless men who have puppies in tow. One restaurant I went to called Sushi Rock Sobe is known to have frequent celebrity customers. I didn't recognize anyone when I went, but I did see some models and a lot of other people who looked like they could be models. Observation told me that Miami was not an ethnically diverse place, but I also noticed that people down in Florida were especially friendly. Perhaps from soaking

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



COURTESY OF AMANDA OWENS

A postcard from Utah, where a number of Hopkins students spent their Spring Break skiing.

Regardless of who went where, Spring Break was Hopkins' time to cut loose. Even though a good many students simply went back home, getting away from the Hopkins grind was wild enough. Those who spent Spring Break at home suffered from a lack of viable adjectives to describe their week away from Hopkins. They ranged from "great" to the tamer "pretty good," usually followed by an

he still came home single.

Orange trees line the streets of Sevilla, breath-takingly vivid against the grayness of a passing thunderstorm. In this case, however, beauty was not found on the inside, as those oranges proved to taste extremely bad.

As is true for most of Europe, everyone in Spain smokes. The Spanish lifestyle baffles travellers with its seeming randomness. Dinner is at 11



The glamour. The glitz. It must be downtown Miami! Ohhhh! Ahhhh!

Pull up chair, comrade, and listen to tales of Old Country

In Old Country... Raise your hand if your grandparents start their stories this way. Old Country can be any place outside the United States but most likely it is in Eastern Europe. In Old Country, kids were respectful, com-

ment. Am I cheapening my heritage and exploiting stereotypes? Yes. But hey, I will do pretty much anything for a laugh, including inventing anecdotes about what it was like to live in Old Country. A selection of ludicrously unreal stories follow. My friends have come to collectively call them Tales from Old Country. Anything can provoke a tale, from a birthday phone call to fresh-fallen snow to a friend's comment on Soviet furniture. (For best effect, read the tales aloud with a thick accent — a cross between *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Dracula*.)

Birthday Cake: In Old Country, on your birthday, you get extra ration of sugar and flour to make your birthday cake. They don't give you enough to make whole cake, only cupcake. You make cupcake big enough to put candle in. If you are bad comrade, no extra rations.

Nutrition: In Old Country, when there is no food, you boil shoes. In leather in shoes there is protein left over from when shoe leather was on cow. You boil shoe,

drink broth — viola — protein.

Milk: In Old Country, we do not have pasteurized milk. Pasteurization is for weaklings. In Old Country, we go right under goat and drink milk. Notice that it is not cow, it is goat.

Am I cheapening my heritage and exploiting stereotypes? Yes. But hey, I will do pretty much anything for a laugh, including inventing anecdotes about what it was like to live in Old Country.

Furniture: In Old Country you do not need chairs. It is so cold you sit on blocks of ice. (There is no more to this tale — all you need to know is that in Old Country you sit on blocks of ice.)

Clothing: In Old Country, you do not buy coat. Instead you hunt bear and use its fur. Sometimes when it is very cold you kill bear and do not bother to skin it. You just wear the entire bear like Luke Skywalker hides in smelly ugly animal in *Star Wars*. The heat of dead bear keeps you warm for while. Then you can make fur coat or kill another bear.

Health: In Old Country, you do not sit on ground. If you sit on grass, cement, or marble, you will freeze your ovaries. No matter how warm ground might be, you run risk of never having children if you sit on it.

Politics: In Old Country, you do not choose your politics. Government tells you what politics are. Politics, schmolitics, we say in Old Country.

Voting: In Old Country, you do



Does this ring a bell? If not, read on for tales from the Old Country.

not know what no-confidence vote is. In Old Country, you do not vote. You spoiled brats and your elections. What will they think of next?

Ah, Old Country... As I read my own article I get tears in my eyes. The nostalgia pains me and I wipe a tear away with a shred of bear fur. I miss the tyrannical dictators, the bread lines, and the wild animals that

roamed the streets along which I walked to school. Don't tell me that after reading this you are not at least a little bit tempted to move to Old Country.

It is very beautiful over there. The snow never stops falling and the temperature is always below zero Celsius. How else could we keep the food from rotting without the invention of the refrigerator?

NATALYA MINKOVSKY
OLD COUNTRY

munism was despotic, and everyone walked to school uphill both ways, barefoot through the snow. As far as Old Country grammar goes, there are no articles. This explains why it is just Old Country instead of The Old Country. In Eastern European languages there is no such thing as an *a* or a *the*. No matter how well educated an Eastern European immigrant is, he or she will inevitably leave out an article here or there. Although I came to the United States at a young enough age to lose my Old Country accent, I sometimes slip into it for the sake of entertain-

NOSTALGIA FOCUS

THE BURNING QUESTION

What was your favorite childhood activity?

"It has to be video games, because I still like it a lot."

—Jesse Wood

"Watching TV or bike riding."

—Aleruchi Mpi

"Riding my bike."

—Ben Gray

"Climbing trees."

—Joanna Siatecka

"Pretending I was an elephant."

—Dave Altschul

"Singing opera with Coke."

—Logie Fitzwilliams

"Walking around barefoot with my socks in my hand."

—David Pepper

"Coloring."

—Brian Williams

"Getting my first mullet haircut."

—Brian Daniels

"My school had a four-square court. I never really figured out all the rules, but we always had lots of fun."

—Jane Smilley

"Playing doctor."

—Brendan McQuillen

"Soccer."

—Gaurav Agarwal

"Dealing candy at school."

—Andrew Schmidt

"Going rock climbing."

—Heather Campbell

"Frolicking in the warm sunshine."

—Justin Kennedy Quinn

"Playing kickball in my backyard."

—Peter Oberg

"Watching TV and eating junk food."

—Mark O'Leary

"Four square."

—Andy Gettens

"Playing outside and climbing trees."

—Katie Reytar

"Playing huge games of shark in the pool."

—Giustine Altschuler

"Playing with my dogs."

—Jackie Gottfried

"Playing with my Transformers figurines. Transformers represent!"

—Ted Bauer

"Juice boxes and Silly Putty."

—Gwen Martin

"Eating chocolate."

—Sheryl Kane

"Childhood? I've mostly tried to repress that."

—S. Brendan Short

"Eating Play-Doh. I always really liked eating Play-Doh. Hey, stop looking at me like that!"

—Jimmy Boron

"Playing outside after dinner in the summer when it stayed light out until really late."

—Rob MacFlecknoe

"Nintendo."

—Tim Whelin

Compiled by Michelle Fenster

I have often thought since looking back over that strange time that it was that small act, trivial in itself, that striking of the match, that determined the whole aftercourse of both our lives.

—James Joyce

Try an experiment with me. Look back on some significant period in your life. Try to look at it kind of like a movie — look at the plot, the char-

S. BRENDAN SHORT

PLACEBO EFFECT

acters, the structure of the action. Pretty dramatic, isn't it? Real blockbuster material. Now, try to remember what you were thinking at the time. Not what, in retrospect, you think that you should have been thinking, but what was actually running through your head at the time. Chances are, you were wondering if you were wearing clean socks, or something along those lines. Things are funny like that. You never know just where in the grand scheme of things you really are. Right now, this very moment, as you read this, you could be in the middle of a major life event, and I bet you didn't even notice until I mentioned it just now. Well, perhaps that's a bit of an exaggeration, but you get the point. Few things are dramatic if you're living through them.

Things change. I mentioned a few weeks ago that a former Hopkins student with whom I worked this summer told me that when he was here in the sixties, the AMRs were the most sought-after housing on campus. I was reminded the other day that Abercrombie & Fitch was founded to outfit travelers and explorers heading out for parts unknown. And while returning to campus after break, I shared my memories of the days when the Manchester International Airport, now such a popular destination for Northeast-bound travelers, was little more than a tiny transposition of tarmac and terminal.

On the other hand, the more things change, the more they stay the same.



COURTESY OF S. BRENDAN SHORT

Think this is weird? Sick? Twisted? Look what you missed out on by not growing up in Manchester.

Followers of the music of the '80s will recall that professional wrestler "Captain" Lou Albano was a frequent guest star in the music videos of the incomparable Cyndi Lauper. Just the other day, I was watching Monday Night RAW, only to see that the WWF faction D-Generation X had had its theme music remixed by Run DMC. You gotta love the sense of continuity that gives you.

But stranger things have happened. Speaking of wrestling, ever seen someone demonstrate a piledriver using a half-dissected cat? In class? Well, obviously you didn't go to high school in Manchester. Of course, struggling with preserved animals is hardly the end-all and be-all of Manchester strangeness. Just down the street from my house is a gas station. Of course, that in and of itself is hardly noteworthy. There are plenty of gas stations in the Queen City, as befits the number one small city in America (don't get me started on that). The gas station is run by, and I'm being completely serious here,

the former mayor of Manchester. Don't ask me why. Apparently, upon leaving office, dispensing gasoline and sandwiches (yes, sandwiches — I'll get to that) seemed like the best career move, barring the occasional return foray into the political arena (he still runs for mayor now and again). But back to the sandwiches. A large sign outside the station proclaims it to be the "Home of the Real Maine Italian Sandwich." For starters, I'm at a loss as to why exactly the state of Maine would be noted for its Italian sandwiches. I've been to Maine numerous times, and I can tell you firsthand that the first thing you notice isn't the multiethnic society (It's the lobster. That's the first thing you notice. Everyone sells lobster. Really.). To return to my main point, though, I can accept that Maine could be the home of a distinctive Italian sandwich. What I have a little trouble with is why exactly you can find the most authentic version of said sandwich several hours south, in Manchester, New Hampshire. I haven't actually

found anyone who can explain this, and trust me, I've asked.

At the beginning of this little tirade, I quoted James Joyce, one of the most influential novelists of the twentieth century. His masterpiece *Ulysses*, from which my epigraph was taken, was written between 1914 and 1921. More than 1700 years earlier, the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius penned this meditation: "For all things are in a way woven together and all are because of this dear to one another." Small events may indeed have great consequences, and great events seem small when seen from a different perspective. I've seen stranger places than Manchester, and I will see stranger places still, and I know that there will come a time when laying on my back like a vagrant for an afternoon in the Eilat bus station because the bus that was going to pick us up was stranded in a ditch with all the sick group members on it won't seem quite so unusual as once it did. Well, actually, that'll probably always be weird, but that's hardly relevant.

Hello lost childhood: Reflections on youth, growing up and Hello Kitty

SHARON BRAUNE CAT GIRL

I got over it. My Rainbow Brite doll, Carebears and Cabbage Patch Kids, made up for what I lacked. I wasn't a deprived child. I had an abundance of toys. But, my sister had the Hello Kitty doll. If I got one, I'd only be copying her. It wouldn't be special. So, I moved on and tried to forget about it.

Once outside one of them turned to me and said, "Hello Kitty is an accessory, not a lifestyle."

And so I did. I forgot all about Hello Kitty. I outgrew my toys. I entered the early teens. I read *YM* and *Seventeen*. MTV replaced Nickelodeon. I went to the "parties" that boys were at. I went to school dances and shyly slow-danced with my crushes. I "grew up." Goodbye childhood.

One day, during the fall of my freshman year of high school, a package came for me. It was from two friends of mine from summer camp. I opened it in anticipation (and in fear that they sent me something my

parents shouldn't see). Inside the brown packaging was a Sanrio dream come true. There was a Hello Kitty pencil box, a set of Keroppi erasers, a pencil with Pekkle on the top, a mini Pochacco address book, and lots of other cute little things school supply type things. It was an awesome gift.

So, for a brief period of high school, I rediscovered the world of Hello Kitty. It was fun while it lasted, but then the fear of digressing into childhood caught up with me. I moved away from the Hello Kitty world. I thought I had to. I didn't want anyone to think I was a baby or anything.

The rest of high school was the rebellion years. Make-up, drinking, swearing and other things that had to be done behind my parents' backs. I was definitely no longer the pure little girl who longed for her own Hello Kitty doll. Life changes and you have to move with it.

Then college came and I mellowed out.

Then one day it happened. I was on A-level when I saw a girl with a Hello Kitty key chain. Now, this was not the first person I'd seen walking around with something Hello Kitty. My friend's roommate had a Hello Kitty doll in his dorm room. Last year a girl I know got a bunch of Sanrio stuff for her birthday. But, there was something about this key chain on A-level that reminded me of how much I missed Hello Kitty.

You see, I had a revelation that day when I was supposed to be studying. It's okay to still enjoy the stuff from your childhood. It's okay to miss what you once had (or in my case didn't have). It's okay to appreciate the things from your past. It's even okay to buy things that maybe aren't exactly for your age group.

And so, one fateful day in December, my suitemate gave me one of the best Chanukah presents of my life — a Hello Kitty stuffed animal.

Since then I've gotten other Hello Kitty items, but I'm careful not to overdue it. There's a major differ-



ence between being nostalgic and trying to recapture lost youth. Because, when you cross that line, you enter a zone of freakiness, of obsession.

I like to check out the Sanrio collections at toy stores like FAO Schwartz. It's fun. Plus, I'm a firm believer that Hello Kitty is a toy for all age groups. So, over Spring Break, I was excited to stumble upon a store devoted to Sanrio toys on Newbury St. in Boston.

When I walked in it was fun. There were lots of different dolls and notebooks and pens, but as I walked further and further back into the store, I became afraid. I didn't know that they made Hello Kitty spatulas and toilet seat covers. It was overwhelming. It was like entering a dollhouse. It was like trying to live inside the imagination of a little girl. My friends and I left quickly. Once outside, one of them turned to me and said, "Hello Kitty is an accessory, not a lifestyle."

And so, I learned my lesson before it was too late. It's okay to miss your childhood. It's okay to buy things now that you really wanted when you were little. But, it's not okay to turn into an adult obsessing over a childhood fad. Limit yourself and know your limits.

Last semester Professor Paul Kramer offered an introductory class entitled "The Baltimore Civil Rights Oral History Project." Over the course of the past eight months, a tremendous amount of research has been completed, dozens of people have been interviewed and the documentation of the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement has increased significantly.

Throughout the course of each week, six students interview random people who were somehow involved in the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement and Monday nights we share the life stories of those to whom we have spoken. Every Monday night from seven to nine a group of seven sit in the History Seminar Room and piece together Baltimore's past. While for most of us, the meeting is after a long day of classes, work and practice, we always chatter excitedly about what we've learned and who we'll talk to next. All of us were members of Professor Kramer's class last semester and now have decided to continue on with this 500-level research course under the direction of graduate student François Furstenberg.

We started the project with a list of a few names of those highly involved in the Movement and then added names as they were mentioned in interviews. We have interviewed some truly amazing people ranging from judges and senators to teachers and steel workers to ex-convicts and postal workers. Each has his or her own story to tell and for the majority, we are the first who care enough to listen. We have interviewed African Americans and whites, the poor and the wealthy, Jews and Christians, all of whom played a role in the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement.

Through these interviews and readings we have come to realize that the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement was and is unlike any other move-

ment in the country. In many ways, Baltimore was and continues to be much more segregated than most other southern cities. Yet at the same time, its transition to integrated schools, shopping stores and restaurants appears to have been very smooth and with little resistance from the white or African American community.

The experience of interviewing is one of the most educational forms of learning history that I have ever encountered. We not only hear the stories, but we hear it from many different people, each of them offering a new idea or understanding. Instead of

simply looking at black and white photos and emotionless texts, we look into the eyes of those who were there and did what we read about. Many of those interviewed need merely one or two questions to jump-start a two-hour interview. We hear their old voices laugh, raise in anger or frustration, suddenly strengthen with the reminder of the convictions of their youth. Through interviewing we not only learn of the past, but in some ways we almost relive it.

Each of our interviews are recorded and indexed so that future historians will be able to learn from these people as we are. These interviews provide a wide variety of perspectives, some of which contradict each other but all of which attest to the fact that the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement included a wide variety of people making it a part of everyday life. Everyone we have interviewed also agrees that while racism in Baltimore has come a long way, much more work is needed in order to reach complete integration in schools, housing, and the work force.

Everyone seems to believe that a new dialogue between the races needs to begin in order to address the problems and issues surrounding today's society.

In their own words

One student discovers the oral history of the civil rights movement in Baltimore

KATIE BATZA

JHU COMMENTATOR



Hello Kitty

FEATURES

Kickboxing with Franz at Meadow Mills



COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS

Is this kickboxing or is it antediluvian deconstructivist subalternity? You decide.

BY ALANA STONE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Buildings in Baltimore roost. Had it been on the first floor, my apartment could have single handedly melted the ice-skating rink that formed in front of St. Paul Court this winter. When I open my door at night, after long hours of professorial subjugation, a vicious heat wave, vaguely reminiscent of a ganja induced hallucination in Negril, blasts through my body, turning it to mush. I gingerly glance into the bathroom to discover that my spare contact lenses have evaporated, leaving shriveled up as grandmother's lips vestiges of what were once juicy blue orbs. "I will now be coerced into wearing my real color eyes! What will become of me," I cry out (to the distress of my already terrified neighbors), "when people discover that my luscious blue eyes are as fake as silicon!" Verdi's requiem begins to play in my head. I identify with Oliver Twist, acquiring a pseudo-British accent, reminiscent

of Madonna's Ruperteveretization in *The Next Best Thing* for the remains of the day. A fatalistic peek in the direction of the stereo proves foreseeable, as I nihilistically accept that all the CD's have melted like a croissant. At my next cocktail party, people will have to bring their own diskmen, and synchronize tracks. If I had a dog, I would not have a dog, because it would be cooked.

To exorcise this spirit of the fire god, I've left my windows permanently entre-ouverts, a technique that has proved quite effective. However, I was recently dismayed when I heard the crazy lady of St. Paul Street vocalizing her daily woes: "Dey know when she come in, dey know when she go out, and (riveting dramatic) SHE don't even know it" Who were they? Were they me? Who was watching me? Suffering the complex of the Borgesian double, I finally understood just why everybody else's windows remained stubbornly shut. It was the crazy lady.

Though the heat alone has prob-

ably evaporated all those extra-anxiety Cafe Q squares I consumed on the sly (sometimes I fear I'll turn into

Class habitually begins with Franz yelling out "Bounce with me!" at which point the entire room begins to vibrate, like those mooing cell phones that never ring.

a square), it was a decisive must that a gym be found *rapidamente*, for the dual function of wowing and punching the observer. If all of these casual onlookers knew everything I was doing, I pragmatically determined that the Anime-esque deceptively coy

was the crazy lady.

His gifted baby, apprentice in the womb, was born with the innate knowledge of how to kickbox. Frequently accompanying her Papa to class, she joins in the punching when not serving as talisman to her mystical father: whenever baby feels the whim to cry, we have to do "another set!" which entails purgatory as awful as the execution of algebraic sums for a writing semi-major. Franz's wife, who's in better shape than the master himself, returned to the bag shortly after giving birth to Franz's mini-me. Her seemingly miraculous aptitude amounts to much speculation.

Franz's choice of soundtracks can be quite amusing. I savored the monotony of "The Apple Tree" — an ingeniously song whose only lyrics happened to be "the apple tree/the apple tree/I'm going to the apple tree" (sometimes I think I should just drop out of school and compose). However, the apple tree's years were fleeting, and in came *Aqua* with "My oh My," which proved a refreshing break from Metaphysics and Jean-Francois Lyotard's theories on the Post-Modern condition.

Class habitually begins with Franz yelling out "Bounce with me!" at which point the entire room begins to vibrate, like those mooing cell phones

that never ring. "Switch, switch switch, switch switch switch," he incants, as his Amazons dexterously flip from side to side like suffocating fish at market, or beached whales — the allusion is yours for the picking. We subsequently proceed to the "move that ass!" segment of the workout,

that never ring. "Switch, switch switch, switch switch switch," he incants, as his Amazons dexterously flip from side to side like suffocating fish at market, or beached whales — the allusion is yours for the picking. We subsequently proceed to the "move that ass!" segment of the workout,

Beware, if you come to class, you will be observed by a crowd of gaping onlookers — although this hardly seems as raucous as the inner thigh cybex machine at Boston University's gym (at least they have one) that literally "opens up" to the world. Its strategic positioning behind a giant glass pane in full view of a main drag is subject of much cocktail conversation.

And then there's the male factor. Why don't men take Franz's class, I've often marveled? Is it because only women open their over-heated apartment windows, thus subject to victimization, while men stoically stick it out in the heat of the night? I think not. Is it perhaps due to an innate fear of exhibitionism. I must confess, men who do show up are subjects of much admiration and adulation for bravery. However, perhaps feeling overwhelmed, they rarely return to the fold. One regular man only turns up for the punching — I suppose he just doesn't feel like bouncing with Franz, or maybe he's just into S&M.

Since the advent of this miraculous discovery, I fly up the steps of Gilman, float across the quad, bounce past the squares at Cafe Q like a bunny on acid, breeze through Baudrillard's *Simulations* and crack open the dense labyrinths of Borges' *Ficciones* like nursery rhymes (well, not quite). I now open my window with utmost confidence. Should an attacker mount the side of my building, I could punch his lights out, murdering him on the spot with a simple twitch of the tricep. At least, that's what I tell myself to be able to sleep without inhaling a 30 oz bottle of Rum & Codeine.

For those desiring a break from the Club Bibliotheque, Franz lectures Tuesdays and Fridays at 6:30 and Sundays and Mondays at 9:30 a.m. at the Meadow Mills gym in Hamden. Hopkins students get a free trial session at the gym, and are entitled to cut rate student memberships. The gym also includes a full range of Cybex machines, aerobic equipment, squash courts and classes ranging from yoga to hi-lo impact. Franz plans to open his own studio in Fells Point in late May.

kicking, punching and lunging with wild abandon, to the blazing decibels reverberating around the room. Finally, we deck out the punching bags. After a brief instance of personification, we proceed to "murdaah dat bag!" and pray like hell that the baby shuts up.

Kickboxing has also provided (yet) another much desired reason to shop. One must keep in vogue for the mogul. It is with acerbic wit (or sheer Baltimore boredom) that we compete for the latest Chanel cat suit or the last MAC sports femme liner left at Nordstroms, faithfully monitoring the mod trends hitting Milan catwalks on the eurotrash channel. Scantily clad (and the longer you keep at this class, the scantier you become), we advance, proud, fierce, Franzised. Beware, if you come to class, you will



COURTESY OF MARYLAND STATE PARK RANGERS WEBSITE

Hiking down I-95, Hop-style

BY SHANNON SHIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

So when most people say spring break, you think of the beach, right?

It's true that most college folks come

back with luxuriously bronzed bodies

as a result of hours spent wor-

shipping the sun goddess. Alas, I was

not fortunate enough to go to the

beach. I went home for three days

and then came back to dismal Balti-

more. But in a desperate attempt to

have a "fun" time and get a semi-

blance of a tan, I decided to go hiking

on Saturday with my German speak-

ing pals Marcus and Moritz.

We talked about going to

Shenandoah, but due to the prior

night's alcoholic content we didn't

get up in time to go out there. So

instead, we settled for going to Gun-

powder Falls State Park. It didn't

seem too bad and it's only 20 min-

utes away from Hopkins. So we all

piled into my car around 1:30 and

made our way over to the park. Like

everyone else, we parked and then

got out to look at the map of the

hiking trails.

According to the map, there are

two hiking trails, separated by a river.

From where we were, it was a three

mile hike to I-95, where the map said

there was a pedestrian bridge to cross

over and return along the other side.

We decided to start off on the plain

Jane ugly side and then come back

to the cool side with all the side trails.

Knowing thus, we proceeded to hike through mud, thorns and a light sprinkling of rain along the boring side.

As we approached the ever-annoy-

ing sound of cars speeding down I-

95, we knew we were nearing the

bridge. But, alas, there was no pedes-

trian bridge in sight. In fact, the only

thing in sight was the I-95 bridge over

the low river.

The hard part was over, or so I thought. We cross over the metal railing and all of a sudden it hits us that we're standing on I-95. Cars are whizzing past us at 70 mph. But the shoulder is wide, so we sprint down the one tenth mile stretch of I-95. Perhaps all the bridges look sturdy, but in reality every time a car would drive onto the bridge, it would quake. It was like being in an earthquake. But we all got to the other side of the river and then crossed the metal railing, so it was all good. — until we had to slide down the steep wall on the other side.

Without going into detail, we slid down the wall and then rolled over to the grass and trampled through thorns. But we managed to find the trail again. And on our way back to the car, we saw the Lost Pond and the Pot Rocks sign. Having seen the sign, we had to see the rocks, so we did. There wasn't any pot there, but there were tons of large rocks in the midst of the river. It was gorgeous and I got to imagine that I was getting a tan for thirty minutes.

Having accomplished a mini-adventure of sorts, my friends and I drove home. The only thing left for me to do was pull the thorns out of my body and nurse my newly acquired wounds. But in the end, it was worth it. Too bad I didn't get a beach tan, but who else could say that they ran down I-95?

Never too old for Yahtzee

How old is old? Is age simply a state of mind? Can you avoid reality? All these answers and more in this week's From the Gutt.

You know, when I turned 20, I started to feel a little old. Now that I'm 21 and have only a year left at Hopkins, I'm feeling older. And scared.

The Real World — the intimidating real thing, not the crackpot TV show — looms.

In less than six months I'm going to be looking for a permanent job. Next thing you know I'll be buying a Mazda Miata during the height of a mid-life crisis.

Then Sally Anne reminded me that we're all only bound to get younger. How's that for a paradox? But it's not really as comforting as it initially appears.

All we have to do is look at the games we play as we grow up, then again as we get older.

The first games we play when we're young are pretty cute and simple. Peekaboo. Hide-and-go-seek. We can play them without parents.

Then, while we're still young, we graduate to somewhat more complex

TOMGUTTING

FROM THE GUTT

Those were the nights you told them you were hanging out at the mall, eating at the food court and maybe talking to girls.

Or maybe you said you were going to play poker or some other card game with the boys. That's a harmless night of fun that parents didn't have to worry about.

In a way that can always be rationalized as being in the best interests of both parties. You were just keeping up the innocent front of those childhood games like peekaboo.

Besides, nobody was getting hurt, as far as you knew or cared anyway. It was like politics.

Now we're all in college, and we've stumbled (sometimes literally) upon another new round of games.

Most of the time these are drinking games. Hide-and-go-seek and Candy Land have been replaced.

Now we play games like Beirut, Asshole, Quarters, High-Low, Shoulders, Three Man and any others in the endless list.

It's still, for the most part, harmless fun. Until somebody gets hurt, but we can't think about those possibilities.

The lying games continue, too, but this time your parents are replaced with professors.

I guess I'll just have to start failing

games such as Concentration, Candy Land and Chutes and Ladders. They're still pretty cute. Almost flirtatious.

Somewhere along the line, however, we stop playing these nice, innocent games without parents, and we hit puberty. And coolness starts to matter. Boys start to notice girls and vice versa.

Once we reach high school, we move into a whole new realm of game-playing.

Lies. And more lies.

Your parents always want to know

FEATURES

Suburbia strikes back

Watch out, Will Smith-lovers. Joe takes on suburban sprawl, and there'll be no survivors. You'd better keep your head down.

Suburbia. What a drag. After years and years of bicker, analysis, and inevitable expansion, we still can't figure out whether we love it or hate it.

The London-based *Economist* featured a clever cartoon this past week. It pictured an enormous red rose (yes, a real American beauty) growing out of a suburban lawn and towering over a nearby fence. Focusing earnestly on one of the thorns on the stem of the rose, a cameraman seemed to completely ignore the actual flower itself. The accompanying article highlighted *American Beauty's* lack of originality, and seemed to add to the increasing literature attesting to the fact that Suburbia, despite what those uppity Hollywood folks say, is really a nice place to be.

In true Brit "flavour," though, the article treated the American suburb the same way much of America treats the urban "ghetto." Like a thesis paper. It ran like a reaffirmation of the suburban utopia: "Now Al Gore, the Democrat seeking the presidency, wants to start a crusade against 'sprawl.' An odd idea when you consider that most of his potential electorate now lives in that sprawl, and seem to like it; and a dangerous one, once you acknowledge that sprawl is now the home of almost everything that is most vital and daring, if not most beautiful, in America." They also mentioned that the suburbs are no longer the white enclaves that "metropolitan" folk make them out to be. Somebody better please go tell them why they won't let the light rail run all the way into Towson!

Of course, *American Beauty* director Sam Mendes is a Brit too, making this seem like a truly European argument, kind of like a couple of Hopkins students discussing the sex

life of bonobos. However, it's certainly not an argument reserved to the Europeans. It's also an American debate, and it seems to have become a kind of almost class warfare.

Last Friday the anti-*American Beauty* verbal weaponry was out in full force. Howard Stern called it

MATTO'BRIEN THE PEOPLE'S CHAMPION

"pompous," and hoped *Sixth Sense* would win. On the same day, Alex Beam, one of the *Boston Globe's* younger columnists, wrote, "Yes, I pretty much hated it. Maybe I took it too personally, as I am the object of contemporary tastemakers' contempt — a married, white, heterosexual suburban parent. But I have to ask. Is there any dime-store banality that writer Alan Ball and director Sam Mendes didn't stuff into this two-hour celluloid whale?" Even Roger Ebert, that bastion of traditional Americana, trashed *Beauty's* "clashed" storyline, suggesting *The Insider* deserved the Oscar instead.

One person in my local paper exclaimed in an anonymous "Backtalk" section that if *American Beauty* won the Oscar it would be nothing less than proof of the moral decay of our country. Some of the people who were watching the awards show with me in McCoy were less polemic. They just didn't want it to win.

Of course, it did win, which doesn't mean much, and certainly not as much as the *American Beauty* winners made it sound like it did.

Maybe a more interesting issue to think about is that while those long

hours of the Academy Awards were running along, a large number of people probably spent it additively playing the new "Sims" computer game, in which a player lives in a virtual suburban world. This was also in the *Boston Globe* on that very same weekend, and a twenty-something with a Russian accent was quoted as saying about the game: "The first time I played I had terrible trouble keeping them alive... The first one I played was a girl and she was constantly broke. When I finally got her a job, she didn't have time to make any friends. So she spiraled into depression, poor thing."

How weird. Some day we'll maybe start worrying about the bonobos, and

Suburbia. What a drag. After years and years of bickering, analysis, and inevitable expansion, we still can't figure out whether we love it or hate it.

then we'll have a primate simulation game. For now, though, those suburbs continue to intrigue us enough to keep up the debate on the future of where and how we live. After a great enough level of self-loathing, cynicism, and academic and artistic representations of the suburb, however, it seems like people are getting tired, and maybe they just don't want it to win.

Well, actually, my mom's the Cuban one so I suppose it's a Fuentes family secret. Either way, it's damn-tastic.

It had been some time since I'd sampled the home cooking but thanks to the graces of Spring Break, fine Miami cuisine awaited me (albeit after a 24-hour train ride — don't ask about that one.). All was definitely worth the wait. There is nothing sweeter than authentic black beans.

Occasionally, our well-intentioned Wolman kitchen staff attempts cooking some black beans. I think we're all familiar with the results: an oily, dark soup with shriveled legumes looking like old corpses. Brings a tear to my eye.

Mattleans over to me at this point, "Hey there, goose, enough with the reminiscing. A brother's gotta eat."

Good call, buddy.

So, back to the details. It's a simple recipe, easily prepared with items most with well-stocked kitchens should already have. Even those of us suffering with two stovetops in the dorms should be good to go after a short trip to Superfresh.

Of course like any good Cuban, these beans are at their best in groups. Steam some rice, add the beans, and, presto, you've got a healthy meal ahead of you. Personally, I wouldn't consider eating them without a nicely grilled flank steak or chicken breast, but I'll leave that to your discretion. *Difrutelo!*

As for things to take home, I recommend chocolate and beer.

Elvis and Ashley meet in Brussels

More excitement as fearless correspondent leaves doing laundry in Copenhagen for the dangers of a rogue Benelux country

Hej fellow Hopkinites! Well, you guys probably won't notice, but I'm sure the editors will. I've been up for more than 36 hrs and this article is the last thing standing between me and sleep. It's been a great weekend, though, so I'm not complaining.

So I finally left the land of the Danes and headed to Brussels, seat of the EU and other large international organizations. It was 48 hours of constant adventure, starting at the Copenhagen airport. I arrived about an hour before my flight was supposed to leave, but when I got to the counter I found out that my travel agency had booked my tickets for the wrong days. I was not supposed to leave until the next evening. Fortunately, they could move me to the appropriate flight, but it was a tense few minutes while the changes were made. Anyway, the moral of the story is **ALWAYS CHECK YOUR PLANE TICKETS!** Not the itinerary, but the tickets themselves.

Belgium is a very interesting country. It is almost completely divided between the French-speaking region in the south and east and the Flemish-speaking region in the north and west. Brussels, the capital, is the only area of official bilingualism, indeed it is the only significant French-speaking enclave in Flanders. There is very little interaction between the two groups, especially outside of professional arenas. In fact, Leanne (my friend) told me it is better to speak in English than in French if you need to communicate with a Flemish speaker. In that sense,

ASHLEY KING OUR WOMAN IN COPENHAGEN

gium, I felt I could at least make an effort to communicate on their terms. My accent was horrible, but I was comprehensible. I also enjoyed it because in Denmark when someone starts speaking to me in Danish, my instinct often is to reply in French. I think it's my brain saying, "That's not English, must be the only other language you speak: French." That line of analysis worked in Belgium. And to finally be able to read street signs was a luxury! I felt so independent and competent!

It was essentially a sight-seeing type of trip. Saturday we went to Bruges, a city to the east of Brussels almost on the coast. It was really lovely! The oldest section of the city has a lot of old canals that were used to transport goods up to the guildhouses from the port in Middle Ages. We walked around and people-watched and caught up. Sunday, I hiked all over Brussels to see the sights. I had forgotten what hills looked like. In Denmark, if you want

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HOT AT HOPKINS



You've probably seen this week's first hottie wandering around campus at one point or another; after all, as she admits, "you can't miss a tall blonde." This, along with the fact that her worst habit is flirting, has brought Margaret Blythe Karow to the attention of Hot at Hopkins.

Blythe, a 5'11" (though, to her dismay, her driver's license reads 6') blond lifeguard from Florida, describes herself as "energetic, funny and outgoing." She claims that she can't live without music, and her favorite song is "The Discovery Channel" by the Blood Hound Gang. Apparently, though, her musical interests vary widely — she reluctantly shares that her favorite boy band is the "old school" New Kids on the Block. Once, she was even caught kissing a poster of Joey McIntyre.

Other strange fetishes of Blythe's include an obsession with the food at Wolman's dining hall — "Marriot rocks my world!" she exclaims. She also enjoys watching *Night at the Roxbury* and *Biodome*, but she fears that quoting from either of these movies would torture readers.

"For some weird reason," she says

sadly, "no one likes *Biodome*."

Additionally, Blythe admits an uncontrollable desire to buy shoes at Nine West. She especially likes heels, so her ideal mate, besides being confident and having green or blue eyes, would be around 6'4".

On the weekends, Blythe goes to parties and clubs with her friends. She loves to dance, and her favorite hangout is the Latin Palace. A night with her would probably end here, after a dinner cooked by her date. Her date would also have to pay for most things and, more importantly, open the door for her.

"I want my date to be a gentleman," she says.

Considering just how fantastically choice this hottie is, she's bound to find a fellow who's all she desires and more.

Not enough Hot at Hopkins for you this week? Well, that's because we're not getting enough nominees, kids! You give us the name of your crush, we'll chase them down until the restraining order is served. Want to get to know someone but don't have the balls to say hello? Phone nominations to x6000 or e-mail to hopkinscupid@hotmail.com

Cuban black beans a delight

CUBAN BLACK BEANS

ground black pepper to taste

- 1 1/2 cups chopped onions
- 3 garlic cloves, minced or pressed
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh ginger

CHARBEL BARAKAT SNACKIN' IN STYLE

root

- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme (and since you probably don't have fresh thyme, that translates to 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme. If you do have fresh thyme, we'd like to know where you get it.)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- 4 1/2 cups drained cooked black beans (three 16-ounce cans, Goya brand, if you can find it)

Multiple pinches of salt and

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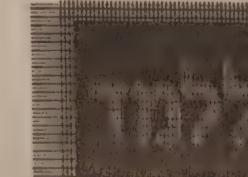
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CONTINUED FROM B1

so many sun rays, no gloomy weather and seasonal disorders to match here. So plan early next year so you have the incentive of beautiful beaches as you cram for those exams.

PART III: NEW JERSEY

BY FAY CHEN

While Hopkinites left and right seem to be suffering from post-spring break maladies — sunburns from excessive hours spent on the beaches of Cancun, extended hangovers from visits to ye olde British pubs, and recurring dreams about a mysterious *gatobus* inspired by frolicking in one too many orange groves in Spain — I am proud to boast none of the above: I spent Spring Break in New Jersey.

The decision has, from its inception through to its execution, been the object of much derision from my unenlightened peers, be it silent or spoken. But such is the case with anything Jersey-related.

Mention of New Jersey generally elicits one of three reactions: unimpeded verbal abuse, feigned acceptance followed by a commendable effort to hide a shudder and a stare, or a degree of delight similar to the immediate bond shared among travelers from a distant land who

have the good fortune of running into one another.

Unimpeded verbal abuse, in my experience, has been the reaction of choice. I have not heard the end of landfills, oil refineries and ugly sound barriers.

I have been pummeled with choruses of "I'm a Jersey girl, in a Jersey world ..." (sung to the familiar tune of "Barbie Girl" by the one-hit-wonder Aqua) coupled with gum-snapping and ditsy hair twirling meant to mimic the customs of "Jersey girls." And this from a person who had not once spoken to me until the fateful day I mentioned four little words: "I'm from New Jersey."

Though such an extreme reaction towards such a nice little state seems, to say the least, bit excessive, the anti-Jersey sentiment appears to be shared.

A sophomore from New Orleans, whose name shall remain undisclosed as requested, adamantly denies her ties to New Jersey in spite of her brief ten-year stay there. "Even while we were living there," she says. "We always knew we were never going to stay there. Everyone knew that we were going to leave."

Why such a harmless — and beautiful — state should elicit such attack is a wonder. Why not ridicule Iowa? Or Virginia? Either case would be equally arbitrary and equally uncalled for.

COURTESY OF AMANDA OWENS
Postcards from Brighton, Utah — not quite the HAC lab or even Aruba.

The words "Arm-pit of America" in reference to New Jersey have all too often violated these virgin ears. I have heard enough about Newark.

And New Jersey is more than just the New Jersey Turnpike. Really.

As for the endearing epithet "The Garbage State," it could not be more undeserving. For the record, New Jersey ships its garbage to Staten Island — in New York.

sey ships its garbage to Staten Island — in New York.

PART IV: SKI ZION

BY AMANDA OWENS

"This is Utah. Why be wedded to one resort? -\$35 Day Passes at

Brighton." proclaimed a billboard along the TRAX (light rail) coming into downtown Salt Lake City. Of course, I had to look twice. A local business, poking fun at the dominant culture's not so terribly distant past, and within view of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' (LDS) Temple Square?

Utah is an interesting state. A few other US states have a majority religion: Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts are slightly over half Roman Catholic, and Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi were just about that much Southern Baptist, the last time anyone really counted, but in Utah as of ten years ago, the population was over 70 percent Mormon. Note that that was 10 years ago, though. Utah, like most other western states, has attracted lots of new residents from around the US, as well as from Mexico. There is now a sizable Hispanic (predominately Catholic) minority in the state. Along with this newer community, there is a non-Mormon native population, consisting mostly of whites, but also with a few Native Americans in the mix. Salt Lake City, from what I've heard from Utahns I've talked to both there and in other parts of the country, is the most diverse part of the state.

Salt Lake City is very clean and orderly. That was my biggest impression of the place. Very little trash, almost no graffiti, and I only saw one panhandler, and even he was leaning against a building, holding a sign asking for donations. I was later told on the TRAX that the LDS church has a sort of "workfare" charity going on in its Deseret Industries and at Welfare Square, about a mile from downtown. The public transportation, consisting of a fairly thorough bus system and a light rail that ties in well with the buses is very clean, efficient and staffed with, for the most part, patient and knowledgeable drivers. The town also has a few other peculiarities. At all the crosswalks downtown, there are audible signals directed toward the portion of the intersection safe to cross. Presumably, this is to aid blind pedestrians. It also pulled me out of la-la land a few times. However, to one of my companions' extreme amusement, some of them sound like demented birds chirping. I proposed that perhaps the city was trying to emulate sea gull noises. "Why sea gull noises? We're in the middle of the frickin' desert!" she replied.

The sea gull is Utah's state bird. When the Mormon pioneers had their first growing season in Utah, they quickly planted a crop that was to last them the winter. However, swarms of locusts and grasshoppers came down upon their plants before harvest. The settlers tried everything: chasing them, setting fires, praying to God for deliverance. Deliverance came, Mormons believe, in the form of flocks of sea gulls from the Pacific Ocean. The gulls ate all the parasites, enabling the settlers to harvest a good crop. Along with the temple, tabernacle and other miscellaneous buildings, the early Mormons erected a statue of sea gulls in thanks to God. This explanation failed to placate my friend, a devout agnostic. "So they worship sea gulls?"

Each his own, but why on earth would the city make the cross signals sound like the filthy birds?"

As for the other 30-plus percent of Utah, they have a wide range of opinions on life as cultural minorities. I asked some high-school-aged kids on a bus what there was to do around Salt Lake City. "Are you LDS [Mormon]?" one of the girls replied. I shook my head. "Nothing, really. This place sucks. I'm moving to Dallas with my boyfriend." The boy added, "I'm Jewish, and there are, like, two Jewish congregations in the whole state." I told them about my home town, Temple, Texas, and that the four or five Jewish families there have to drive to Waco for services. "Yeah, but are we called gentiles there, too?" I had heard some vague things to that effect before about Utah, but not so plainly. The Mormons see themselves as something of a chosen people; the settlement area was called Zion; and the non-Mormon minority in Utah are sometimes referred to as "gentiles." The reference appears to be less common now, but I saw it in print a few times (primarily in *The City Weekly*, something resembling Baltimore's *City Paper*, only slightly more sarcastic and critical. A great read.) All three were dressed in large amounts of black, had pretty standard punk piercings, and of course, had dyed their hair. I noticed a lot of "alternative dressing" around Salt Lake City. Maybe it just stuck due to the conservative dress sported by most of the other passengers.

"It's a wonderful place to live ... if you're already married, but your kids aren't past nine or 10 yet," said the ski instructor when we were asking his opinion of life in Zion. "Clean, safe neighborhoods and great neighbors, but not a lot for non-LDSers to do." Everything in Murray, the Salt Lake City suburb our motel was in, seemed to close by 8 or 9 p.m. In Salt Lake City itself, things closed around 10, including the city's bus system. Baltimore nightlife now seems abundant.

Utah politics are, as expected, very, very conservative (even to this Bible Belt native). In the past year, the Utah Legislature has declared it illegal for students to talk about sex in school, kept it legal to carry concealed weapons in schools and churches, and have created a position in the state Attorney General's office to deal with pornography ("the Porn Czar," as many skeptical locals call it). Of particular recent controversy in Salt Lake City, outside of the whole Salt Lake Olympic Committee mess, was the sale of the block of Main Street that goes through the middle of Temple Square to the LDS Church. Supposedly, the mayor's office was not open about the deal at all, and this angered a lot of Salt Lake City residents. Salt Lake City has since gotten a new mayor; he's a Democrat, amazingly enough.

Utah is a weird and wonderful place with some excellent skiing and really nice, helpful people, the four of us concluded as we prepared to return to the East Coast. Whatever one might think of their religious and cultural practices, the Mormons sure knew how to pick a settlement.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

High Fidelity: Little John Cusack grows up



COURTESY OF TOUCHSTONE

John Cusack: still darlin' after all these years. And yes, that is Lisa Bonet on the left there.

BY MIKE JASIK

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

We grew up with John Cusack. His innocent yet mischievous smirk rotated endlessly in Boston on WLVI, WSBK and cable stations like TBS or TNT.

Sanguine Gib in *The Sure Thing*, poor Lane in *Better Off Dead*, starry-eyed Hoops in *One Crazy Summer*, and the cool as cool Lloyd Dobler in *Say Anything* all remain tucked away in our collective 80s' hearts along with the sexually advantageous switch from He-Man to She-Ra, the rad shock of the Challenger Explosion, and the impish charm of the then filthy "It's So Easy."

But those days are long gone. And John's moved on, you know. He started before we did. He matured greatly from John Sayles' *Eight Men Out* to last year's triumph, *Being John Malkovich*. Gone were the nice guy

roles, packed to the gills with good intentions, minor stumbles and triumphant endings.

See ya bitches. John's got a brand new bag — and it's teeming with licks of venom. *The Grifters* showed a man playing a con game with his villainous mother and baneful yet often naked girlfriend. It got messy. *Grosse Point Blank* had him as a ruthless assassin, with a soft side, of course. That featured pen stabbings.

In *High Fidelity*, John's character (Rob Gordon) is littered with flaws. Self-indulgence runs amok, as his abrasions and neuroses often destroy his relationships with women, but he can never tell. He's too absorbed blaming the opposite sex for all his travails.

Adapted from the popular novel by Nick Hornby, the action begins with hangdog Cusack in full effect. His girlfriend of two years, Laura (Danish actress Iben Hjejle, last seen

tearing it up in *Mifune*), has dumped his sorry ass. He mopes in his apartment, headphones astride his head, his thin frame limp in a chair, drowning to one of his thousands of records. To placate his doleful state, he tells us about his five worst break-ups, from high school to present.

Number one is no biggie: six hours of make out time is all that's gone. Number two is awful: it's over because she won't go for the nookie. Having gone up her shirt and been denied, he tries up her skirt, which he explains is like "asking for a dollar, getting turned down, then asking for ten grand."

Contestant number four (Catherine Zeta-Jones) kicks it to a brawny goon and all Rob can do is scream through the pouring rain, "Charlie, you fuckin' bitch, let's work it out!" The fifth was a mutual sympathy ploy that ended when she found someone else. Not a big deal at all, but

it exists solely to spite Laura, who won't get the satisfaction of making the top five.

Rob transfers his malaise to his record store, Championship Vinyl, where his part-time help, Dick, timid emo boy, and Barry (Jack Black), annoying, rotund loudmouth, swap best of pop lists while lambasting customers for their musical choices. Quite often, these bits work, but Barry's pugnacious humor falls flat on a number of occasions as his attempts to steal a scene merely leave it tired and spent.

To understand his breakup with Laura, Rob reconnects with his old flames. He feels completely invigorated, either learning that the breakup had nothing to do with him, or that he instigated it, or that the girl is completely undesirable in retrospect. Score!

But the problem with Laura worsens. She falls into bed with Ian (Tim Robbins), a ridiculous ponytailed lawyer, a character so preposterous

he garners the same instantaneous laughs as Charlie Sheen in *Being John Malkovich*. To see him is to

We grew up with John Cusack. His innocent yet mischievous smirk rotated endlessly in Boston on WLVI, WSBK and cable stations like TBS or TNT.

titter. But now he must win her back. And all Rob has to do is become an adult.

Along the way, director Stephen Frears (*Dangerous Liaisons*, *The Grifters*) mixes up the narrative conventions, combining silly wish-dream

gags, intense arguments, dynamic group comedy in the record store and a hilarious telepathic conversation between Rob and the Boss himself, Springsteen, with dazzling results. Rob's witty monologues infuse the script with constant humor and wry commentary.

But a flurry of weak points, like Rob's brief bang of a singer named Marie De Salle (phoned in by the corpse of Lisa Bonet), or Dick's flirt with Anaugh (Sara Gilbert), an eager Green Day fan, sidetrack the story. And the absurd preponderance of rain sequences in times of trouble often removes the viewer from the story.

The strengths lie with Rob, as he struggles to develop into a person that can accept and enjoy his situation, his career, his girlfriend and his little frailties.

Our enjoyment stems from this growth, or lack thereof, and when the film showcases that, it's gold, baby, gold!

Latter Days: Zeppelin still rocks

BY TOM GUTTING

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Jimmy Page has been hard at work on the second installment of *Led Zeppelin's greatest hits*, and his efforts paid off in a big way. Page's song selections for the latest Zeppelin rehash, *Latter Days: The Best of Led Zeppelin Volume Two*, are nothing short of brilliant. While *Early Days*, the first greatest hits album released last fall, captured the raw power of Zeppelin in its youth, *Latter Days* traces their development and maturity — these songs even come from albums that have titles. "The Song Remains The Same" leads off the disc. Sadly, this song's studio version never really convinced. But listening to it does remind me of the brilliant versions the group came up with in concert. The guitar track is sorely understated in the studio takes of the song, which shares the title with Zeppelin's concert movie released in 1976.

The second track, "No Quarter," is a favorite of casual listeners and fanatics. Bass and keyboard player John Paul Jones lays down hypnotic lines on a synthesized bass, and his interaction with Page's guitar during the middle section of the song is remarkable. "No Quarter," which became one of Zeppelin's 40-minute concert epics during their later years, also incorporates stellar lyrics from Robert Plant, notably some references to "the dogs of doom" and other dark Zeppelin fascinations.

"Houses of the Holy," track three, is classic Zeppelin. It's a wonder that they never played this song live. Your task is to figure out what the houses of the holy were. Or not. Just enjoy it.

"Trampled Underfoot" is one of those songs that only Zeppelin could dream up. Jones bangs away on the clavinet, while Page lays down some intricate guitar work. Plant effortlessly moves between high and low notes, which combines nicely with the havoc created by Page and Jones and the explosion of John Bonham's drums.

That leads into track five, "Kashmir" — another song that only Zeppelin could have produced. This is their epic. Maybe you thought "Stairway

to Heaven" was. You've got a case, but "Kashmir" was the height of Zeppelin musically. In an interview after Zeppelin broke up, Jimmy Page said that "Kashmir" was the epitome of the band. It was the song that represented everything they wanted to do musically.

Jones underlines the song with his strong bass tones played on the Mellotron, while Page lays down the famous, driving riff of "Kashmir." Bonham's drumming is remarkable, and you can hear the size of his bass drum. And Plant works out some of his best lyrics, inspired by some drug-induced state in which he and Page, while vacationing in the Sahara, decided they should just drive to Kashmir. (Yes, that's the same Kashmir India and Pakistan are fighting over.)

It's hard to follow up an epic like "Kashmir," but Zeppelin pulls it off, of course, and we're only halfway through the disc. Track six, "Ten Years Gone," is one of those overlooked Zeppelin songs. "This is a proper love song," Robert Plant explained to the audience at a 1977 concert at the LA Forum. "It's really about the first love that you ever had."

That about says it all, but don't be fooled. This is not some trashy ballad like you might find from Savage Garden or Third Eye Blind. This is a love song Zeppelin style. Page's guitar will make you feel drugged. "Achilles Last Stand" has the band running with all four pistons firing. Bonham's martial drum tempo is simply brilliant. Page's solo is one of the greatest ever — just a notch below "Stairway." He gives an excellent impression that he is fighting the guitar, like Achilles would be fighting Trojans. Okay, but let's not read too deeply into that. It's just amazing guitar playing.

"Nobody's Fault But Mine," track eight, is a Zeppelin classic. After he wrote it, Plant admits that he didn't know why he did. This was during Plant's dark period after his young son, Karac, died. You'll find all the satanic references you could want in this song, including the great blues appeal to hell sounds.

The song is heavy, brooding Zeppelin that brings out the unity of all four instruments. The timing is just right, especially among Bonham and

Jones in the rhythm section. The final two songs from *Latter Days* are taken from Zeppelin's last studio release, *In Through The Out Door*. Just because it was 1979 and the band would be gone in a year doesn't mean that they weren't still rocking. John Paul Jones made his biggest mark on Zeppelin's music on this album, and it is apparent in "All My Love."

It's probably the closest thing to a "monster ballad" you'll find from Zeppelin, but don't even think of comparing it to the likes of Warrant and Whitesnake, even though it might have been used as a model by those 80s hair bands. Jones puts the synthesizer to good use, but Page's guitar is somewhat absent in this song. The lyrics are somewhat sappy, but it's still Plant groaning soulfully.

Latter Days closes with "In The Evening," a dark track that once again brings together all the good things from Zeppelin's last five years together. It's truly one of their best songs. Plant's lyrics are nothing short of fabulous right from the beginning — "In the evening, when the day is done." It's a nice little explanation that most bands don't get away with.

Jones again uses the synthesizer well, but, in contrast to "All My Love," it's not as prominent. That means that Page's guitar is front and center, just the way it should be. He comes up with his last great Zeppelin riff and makes the most of it. You'll be entranced by this song from the first listen.

Well, that's it for Zeppelin's greatest hits compilations. What's next for the great dinosaur? Jimmy Page has said that he would love to get back together with both Plant and Jones, but it probably won't happen. He has also said recently that he would love to put out a compilation of live recordings, though he doesn't think Plant would be keen on the idea. Anyway, who knows what lies in store. Certainly something, and we can wait drooling until it comes. In the meantime, we've got all of Zeppelin's greatness to play and replay. Also, if that isn't enough, John Paul Jones is currently on his first solo tour since Zeppelin broke up. You can see him in Pasadena, Maryland, tonight. It'll remind us of what rock music is really supposed to sound like.

Pumpkins: Deus ex MACHINA

BY J DICKENSON

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

More than a few people have recently argued that the Smashing Pumpkins have passed their prime. While there's no lack of evidence to support this theory — firing someone, drug abuse, failed record sales, firing someone, drug abuse — you've got to give the Pumpkins (or at least Billy Corgan) credit for keeping a positive attitude through it all. They've made their way to the top from some downright despicable conditions, and they're not about to give up without a fight.

Thus, from the shady depths of Corgan's melancholy heart comes a new record: *MACHINA/the machines of God*. While I have to admit that I was one of the twelve people that actually enjoyed *Adore* (along with my roommate, who also secretly listens to *Depeche Mode* late at night), I can't deny that I've been looking forward

to the time when the Pumpkins would return the acoustic guitars to their cases and turn up the amps again.



MACHINA is classic Pumpkins — hard driving, pathological rock 'n' roll and tender love ballads saturated with introspective, soul-baring lyrics. "You and me/ meant to be/ immutable/ it's destiny/ pure lunacy" Corgan sings on "Stand In-

side Your Love." On others, such as "Raindrops and Sunshowers," he reminds us of our hopeless lives while offering a sort of brotherly comfort: "Rain falls on everyone/ the same old rain/ and I'm just trying to walk with you between the raindrops." And while Corgan speaks to his audience, the poetry is still a personal vindication of the demons that torture him: "You know I'm not dead," he sings on "The Everlasting Gaze." "I'm just living in my head/ forever waiting on cruel death."

Comparisons to *Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness* will be inevitable, but this record is worthy enough to stand on its own. While it's not another landmark album, Corgan and Company have brought forth a compilation of well written songs, seamlessly woven instruments, and an archaic picture book of alchemy and ancient mechanisms that will be a pleasure for any Pumpkins fan to indulge in.

SWEET AND LOWDOWN

John Paul Jones Impress your parents and go see the legendary Led Zeppelin bassist. Thursday, 8 p.m., Dayton's, 8501 Fort Smallwood Road, Pasadena, \$20.

Feminist Expo 2000 Chicks, chicks, chicks! Just kidding, of course. Women, and those who love them, can get their consciousness raised right here in Charm City with a weekend of speakers, seminars, book signings and entertainers dedicated to promoting gender equality. Friday-Sunday, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., \$24-195.

Shriver Hall Concert Series Trio David Shifrin, David Finkel and Wu Han performs the Mity Clarke Gann Memorial Concert. Shriver, Sunday, 7:30 p.m., \$12 for students.

Toy Story 2 To infinity and beyond, baby! Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., Shriver Hall, \$3.

Mark Doty The poet reads from his work as part of DSAGA's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Awareness Days. Monday, Mudd 26, 8 p.m.

Pieces sends the old masters into Orbit

BY J DICKENSON

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-Letter

Sure, it sounds like a cheesy idea: Remixing classical compositions with dance beats and synthesizers. In the wrong hands, Beethoven's Triple Concerto would become merely a laughable collage of analog blips and siren.

In the hands of William Orbit, musical genius of the electronic age, however, these eleven remixes become profound resurrections of classic works that have proven not only that they stand the test of time, but that they own a piece of the musical landscape in any era.

Simply put, *Pieces in a Modern Style* is 60 minutes of beautiful melodies, serene rhythms and comforting ambiance. But there's more intelligence to Orbit's latest project than surface beauty (although it's done well enough that it's worth your money just for that). Orbit will carefully choose passages from each piece's original form, sometimes transcribe

them for other instruments, sometimes keep them in their natural state. He'll embellish the harmonies with peaceful, atmospheric sounds. He'll draw the listener in with a catchy pulse, create a piercing moment of tension, then release at just the right moment, letting a flood of cathartic emotion seep from the speakers.

There's no doubt *Pieces* will attract the scoffing attention of classical purists. It's true, this CD's not for everybody — you might not be happy with Orbit's interpretation of Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings* if you prefer the Kronos Quartet to Deep Forest — but maybe this is the first step in building a bridge between the two deceptively diverse worlds.

Orbit offers the listener something they won't find anywhere else, and does it with decidedly good taste. It's almost an homage to nine influential composers and eleven monumental works of art that deserve recognition in today's fast paced world, where all too often the geniuses of the past seem to have been forgotten.

Albums

1. Santana *Supernatural*
2. Sisqo *Unleash the Dragon*
3. Dr. Dre *Dre 2001*
4. Macy Gray *On How Life Is*
5. Bone Thugs n' Harmony *BTNHResurrection*
6. Black Rob *Life Story*
7. Destiny's Child *The Writing's On the Wall*
8. Kid Rock *Devil Without a Cause*
9. George Strait *Latest Greatest Straitest Hits*
10. Christina Aguilera *Christina Aguilera*

Source: *Billboard Top 200*

Modern Rock Tracks

1. Red Hot Chili Peppers "Otherside"
2. No Doubt "Ex-Girlfriend"
3. Lit "Miserable"
4. The Smashing Pumpkins "Stand Inside Your Love"
5. Vertical Horizon "Everything You Want"
6. Incubus "Pardon Me"
7. Bush "Letting the Cables Sleep"
8. The Bloodhound Gang "The Bad Touch"
9. Blink 182 "All the Small Things"
10. Limp Bizkit "Re-arranged"

Source: *Billboard Modern Rock Tracks*

CHARTS OF THE WEEK

College Radio Top Ten

1. Morphine *The Night*
2. The Cure *Bloodflowers*
3. Air *The Virgin Suicides*
4. Yo La Tengo *And Then Nothing Turned Itself Inside Out*
5. Modest Mouse *Builing Something Out of Nothing*
6. MDFMK *MDFMK*
7. Clinton *Disco and the Halfway to Discontent*
8. Gunga *Glitterati*
9. Fu Manchu *King of the Road*
10. The Pinehurst Kids *Viewmaster*

Source: *CMJ Radio 200*

WSR (Hopkins Student Radio) Top Ten 530 AM and www.jhu.edu/~whsr

1. The Cure *Bloodflowers*
2. Oasis *Standing on the Shoulders of Giants*
3. Guns n' Roses *The Live Era*
4. The Naked Self
5. Fiona Apple *Limp*
6. Beck *Midnite Vultures*
7. REM *Man on the Moon*
8. William Orbit *Pieces in a Modern Style*
9. Violent Femmes *Viva Wisconsin*

Source: *WSR Top 30 as reported to CMJ*

New films on the international circuit

BY ALANA STONE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Three new foreign films made diametrically opposed forays onto the international circuit this season. Director Amos Gitai's *Kadosh*, screened at the Cannes International Film Festival, secured Israel's position on the movie map for the first time in 25 years. And director Tom Tykwer, whose previous US release, the MTV-esque pop explosion *Run Lola Run* which simultaneously won the Sundance Audience while provoking the trend of "Lola-red" hair in its native Germany, came out with a more subtly chilling play on the themes of fatalistic temporal causality explored in *Run* in his visually stunning *Winter Sleepers*.

Mifune, a Danish low-budget feature from director Soren Kragh-Jacobsen that could have been renamed *Love on the Farm*, proved to be the tamest of the trio. Kragh-Jacobsen, whose previous films include several studio blockbusters, took a vow of cinematographic chastity, signing Danish directors Lars von Trier (*Idiots*) and Thomas Vinterberg (*Celebration*)'s 10-point *Dogme 95* plan, designed to create projects as devoid of special effects as possible (but Kragh-Jacobsen admits having cheated by covering a window with a blanket, thus breaking the artificial lighting clause). Though Kragh-Jacobsen does not plan to ascribe to these stringent rules of asceticism in subsequent productions, he has been quoted saying that a break from the mainstream revived his creativity, which will surely percolate future endeavors in a positive way.

While the three films couldn't be more disparate in method and content, they converge thematically. All center around characters that, due to either lack of or forced control, the latter sentiment possibly resulting from social impotence at large, are coerced into a wild search for meaning in a life that seems to have lost all sense of truth.

Kadosh, focusing on Jerusalem's ultra-orthodox neighborhood, Mea Shearim, depicts an austere and often auto-destructive insularity. The principal victims are the sect's women, whose sole use as procreation machines contributes passively to the perpetuation of the religion.

It is highly unlikely that members of the actual sect will ever view *Kadosh*, as films, considered secular propaganda, are forbidden in Mea Shearim. While the film raises awareness of fundamentalism's destructiveness in general, its pointed focus on a virtually insignificant Israeli minority of Eastern European descent, shell shocked and incapacitated by the Holocaust, it fails to make a clear distinction between the minority and the fundamentalist sect, presenting both as equal contenders in supposed societal warfare, instead of depicting the state of an ultra-orthodox minority circumscribed by a liberal and pragmatic Israeli society at large.

The ominous panoramic framing of Jerusalem's city scape closing the film seems to hint that it seeks to convey Israeli society as a whole — indeed, Israel's secularity has been subject of much debate; however, the final image, reaching an international audience, while failing to target the group it seeks to question, may instead create harmful stereotypes. Scenes from the movie depict brutal masculine force, justified by religious fanaticism — a woman is literally raped on her wedding night by the pious husband she has never gotten to know. A rabid scholar, he chants cultish millennial woes in his spare time, diffused around the city by a loud speaker installed in his car.

Another character, Rivka, is accused of infertility (her husband turns out to be the impotent one — a seeming impossibility). After ten years of marriage, he is forced to renounce their marriage certificate (she isn't given an option). Rivka moves into an apartment removed from the community. The film ends with her return to her husband, already remarried to a younger woman. Rivka commits suicide after their first night of illicitly non-functional sex, much to his chagrin.

From this stifling ambiance of subjugation, it is interesting to switch over to *Winter Sleepers*, where a group of 20 and 30 something German yuppies congregate in the equally stifling, but deceptively liberating locale of a mountain ski village. Cinematographically, *Sleepers* is an absolute work of art. The coordination of visual and auditory effects captures the viewer in a convoluted web of frozen intrigue and deep-seated

malaise. If *Kadosh*'s characters are slaves to a secret society, then *Sleepers*' are captives of the seeming freedom of economic mobility and addictively deceptive perpetual youth. If the characters in *Kadosh*'s minds appear frozen in the past, *Sleepers*' drift airily, impotently grasping for the strength to survive an utterly meaningless and insubstantial existence.

It comes as no surprise that *Sleepers*, as *Kadosh*, ends in death. Marco, an attractively arrogant ski instructor hilariously played by Heino Ferch, comes around his playmate du jour Laura's house. Leaving the keys in the ignition of his gorgeous new sports car, he abandons his possession to possess the girl. While they're rolling around in the chalet, an odd-looking film projectionist, Renee, passes the car and, seeing that it is unoccupied, quickly snaps a picture of the couple in bed before taking a quick joy ride. This soon turns into a hell ride, as Renee swerves off the road to avoid hitting a truck.

The entire movie revolves around chance, causality and the unpredictability of existence as mapped out by the myriad possible paths leading to diverging outcomes as formerly mapped out in *Run Lola Run*. German youth's amnesia crisis, whereby history is unaccounted for and forgotten, while the present seems to drift independent of human initiative, percolates through the characters' lives. The trucker's daughter falls into a deep coma, while Renee suffers short-term memory loss due to a "war accident," thus explaining his compulsion to take pictures of daily events. What Renee does in fact recall is left nebulous.

He eventually falls into a relationship with the nurse who is watching over the girl in the coma. By the end of the film, she is pregnant — symbolic of the resurgence of consciousness in the next generation? The question remains: is the conveyance of memory in progeny in fact possible of parents who themselves are subject to forgetfulness, or is Renee intended to represent a victim of forgetfulness, aware of his defect, and fighting to remember through the artificial medium of the camera's cold, inanimate and omnipresent eye (autobiographical perhaps)?

Whatever one determines, *Sleep-*

ers' narrative intermeshes explores issues in a less jarring way than *Lola* — a fact that will surely contribute to its unpopularity. I'd urge anyone to see it just for Heino Ferch's winning performance of the god-awful muscular frat boy of the slopes. I cried with laughter. After sitting through the extremes of the human condition, *Mifune* comes as a welcome break from all the hype. Besides, it offers an unforeseeable chance to brush up that neglected Danish.

Kresten, a Copenhagen businessman, has just married his boss's daughter, Claire. After a wild night of sex with his rabid capitalist wife, he receives a disturbing phone call from the farm. Kresten's past suddenly comes crashing into his Nokia life, and, as he is informed of his father's sudden death "down on the farm" (a father long forgotten since the advent of the cornucopia of Copenhagen cash) all hell breaks loose.

Returning to the place of his youth, Kresten rediscovers his childhood friendship with his slightly mentally handicapped brother, Rud. The situation eventually leads to the necessity for a housekeeper. Enter Liva, a leggy blonde Copenhagen call girl/angel, single-handedly financing her snooty brothers' (who dresses better than Yoji Yamamoto) private school education through her endeavors.

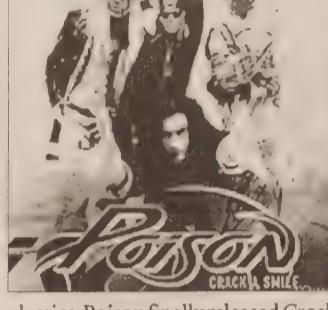
Recently plagued by disturbingly suggestive phone calls, she decides that moving to the country for a while would prove judicious — besides, the prosties back home keep in touch daily via cell phone. When Kresten's wife finds him in a misleadingly compromising situation with the "maid," she leaves him for good, taking back the car for closing costs. Predictably, Liva and Kresten get together, the film ending with the couple slow dancing to the beat of a Danish country bumpkin band's virtuoso rendition of sly cool jazz (at another point, the guitarist surprises the city folk with a fast as lightning Sevillano). Like the other two films, *Mifune* deals with disillusioned drifters who refreshingly end up in the chicken coop instead of the hearse. Cooped up in their country love nest, Liva and the boys seem as content as can be. Nokia firmly in hand, life in the Danish boondocks appears oddly satisfying.

Poison cracks a Smile

BY CHRIS LANGBEIN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

They taught us how to live. They taught us how to rock. Such was the glory of hair bands.

Though long gone, the butt rock era of pop music, however short-lived, will always hold a special place in the hearts of our generation. The hair, the wailing guitars, the concert videos; Bon Jovi, Warrant, Poison, Motley Crue, Slaughter, Damn Yankees. Before the genre's assassination by Nirvana, those puff-heads managed to produce some damn good material amidst an ocean of utter shit. On March 14, we were given a special treat by one of the



classics: Poison finally released *Crack A Smile*.

In a brief introductory note to the album, the producer, Kevin Flaherty, claims that the collection moves like a "freight train." Though far from the truth, the comment does accurately cast the album in the same aura of energetic devotion reminiscent of Poison's original work.

The first pair of tracks ("Best Thing You Ever Had" and "Shut Up, Make Love") excel in their mediocrity, but do manage to recall the Poison sound, somehow, that we all remember. The songs aren't bad, but they aren't real winners, either. Since the album was recorded in '94, the sound smacks more of *Native Tongue* than the band's early stuff, but anyone who has heard their fair share of Poison will identify the music.

The third track, "Baby Gets Around A Bit," does stand out a touch. It's got a fair enough tune and is kind of catchy, believe it or not. "Baby Gets Around A Bit" is a clear demonstration of how the Poison sound has developed, and it serves as a sort of evidence that the new attitude of the sound isn't predestined for abso-

lute failure.

Track four, by far the most fun on the album, has Bret Michaels and Rikki Rockett, drunk, trying to make it through "Cover Of The Rolling Stone." Not only is the original a well-regarded song, but Michaels and Rockett actually do a pretty good job. Go figure.

Between the unimpressive tracks five and seven is a fun song, "Mr. Smiley." Sexual innuendo notwithstanding, it could be a lot worse. The song is structured much like the Motley Crue favorite "Dr. Feelgood," actually, but just not as good. Tracks eight and nine have appeared on their Greatest Hits album. Though "Lay Your Body Down" is heavy on sentimentality, for a power ballad, it ain't half bad. "Sexual Thing" needs to go.

Tracks nine through 12 don't offer much, except an ironically titled track 11: "Tragically Unhip." The next four tracks aren't actually part of the original *Crack A Smile* album, but are just a collection of lost tracks and special features. They pretty much serve as a block of mediocrity supporting the final quartet of songs. So unless Bret Michaels is your personal hero, the genius of these reincarnated works will just end up staying buried (especially the "Crack A Smile Unfinished Demo" which is the only composition on the album that is actively and aggressively bad).

Much of this album has been bootlegged for years, apparently, since its release was halted by internal band problems. It doesn't come as much of a surprise, then, that the album is finished off with a supplement of four live recordings from Poison's *MTV Unplugged* appearance. While C.C. DeVille falls painfully out of tune every now and again, it is fun to hear a few classics again, especially if *Swallow This Live* has been out of the rotation for a while.

While the album seems to be more like a bunch of leftovers taped together to bring in a little more revenue for a dying group, Poison's history as a hard-working band makes that scenario a little far-fetched, especially with new album rumors popping up. While *Crack A Smile* doesn't have any real classics on it, there's almost nothing painful to listen to. So if you want to take a quick trip back to the days of butt rock and hair bands, consider the new Poison offering.

Sappy Here on Earth misses mark

Teen love triangle flick opts for convention and sentimentality



COURTESY OF FOX
LeeLee Sobieski's cuteness almost saves *Here On Earth*.

above Jasper's garage for the summer. Sam and Kelley begin to fall in love, which is so predictable that thankfully the will-they-or-won't-they element of the courtship is skipped in favor of immature sparring between Sam's love interests.

As the audience comes to learn, privilege is relative. Kelley's family life is pitiful. He has a father who ignores him and a mother who has long-since died from suicide. Both Sam and Jasper have idyllic family lives.

This recycles a generic and upsetting idea: that rich people are cold and unfeeling towards their children and real love is only found among the working-class.

One of the interesting questions the film inadvertently poses (and unfortunately never explores) is why Sam would be attracted to someone like Kelley and vice versa. Though there is a conflict of class, the audience learns that they have a lot in common (both are college-bound and love Robert Frost). Their affair, which is meant to feel natural in a movie such as this, only proves puzzling in light of Kelley's macho posturing and the little that Sam reveals about her personality to him in dialogue.

The young actors that make up the core of the cast are at times sweet and affable, but at others they are so out of touch with the dialogue that their faces almost read, "I can't believe I'm saying this!" Klein in particular is as uncomfortable with his squirm-inducing sexually-sug-

tive lines as he is when he must deliver emotion. It does not help that the script renders him both an arrogant "Richie Rich" and a tortured victim of neglect.

Surprisingly, Hartnett makes his relatively small role the most believable. When he begs for Sam to reconsider running off with Kelley, you want her to listen.

Sobieski herself is capable as a leading lady, but she isn't as adorable and heart-breaking as she should be in this role. She is as stoic as someone three times her age, and it's not an asset for this melodramatic character.

The amazing thing is that a film this short on plot has two major conflicts. The greased-up hunk and the down-country podunk battling for Sam's affection are the first. But three-quarters of the way into the film, Sam's struggle against an incurable illness is revealed. The two problems seem to exist separately, unrelated to one another. The disjointed plot renders the movie messageless since the audience is forced to switch its focus so fast and so late in the game.

The disease in question is glossed over and made so irrelevant that one wonders why it was included at all, except to induce tears and effort to make the audience believe there is more to the Kelley-Sam dalliance than superficial, youthful lust. Sobieski's character is so overwhelmingly clear-headed about her fate that the movie is over as soon as she tells Kelley the sad truth about her conditions. The last half-hour goes through the motions as one would expect, offering nothing valuable to the audience.

The movie succeeds in its more fanciful depictions of puppy love: Jasper's tears at being dumped, Kelley and Sam's imaginary baseball game, and the couple chasing each other through the New England forests. Like first love, the movie is dreamy, sweet and fleeting. Also like adolescent romance, it is knee-jerk, not thought-out, and over before it's able to leave a strong impression. *Here on Earth* plays all this week and next at the White Marsh cineplex. Call (410) 933-9034 for showtimes.

BY ERIN KILIAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The tear-jerking love triangle is told as Casablanca and as common in film as almost any other plot device. *Here on Earth* follows this trend, with a new teen spin, adding pinup-friendly stars LeeLee Sobieski (*Joan of Arc*), Chris Klein (*American Pie*) and Josh Hartnett (*The Faculty*).

Klein plays Kelley, a prep-school senior who embodies the stereotype of a spoiled, hopelessly wealthy but hopelessly troubled kid. Sobieski is Sam, a small-town girl who is every bit as sweet as she looks. Kelley stumbles into Sam's family diner and takes an instant liking to her, angering her townie boyfriend Jasper (Hartnett) and his bumkin friends.

After a testosterone-driven game of chicken, the two guys accidentally destroy the diner and are sentenced to rebuild it, forcing Kelley to live

A comedy about fear of commitment, hating your job, falling in love and other pop favorites.

John Cusack High Fidelity

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CALENDAR

MARCH 30 TO APRIL 5

Thursday, March 30

ON CAMPUS

Professor Principe will be leading a discussion. There will be food served at 6 p.m. and the discussion will begin at 7 p.m. Newman House, 2941 North Charles Street. For more information, contact that Catholic Community at 410-243-6630 and ask for David Campbell.

Edward Ball will be discussing his path to self-discovery via his discussions on violence, opulence, dynastic struggles, slave uprising and heroism. Shriver Hall, 8 p.m. For more information, call 410-516-7157.

OFF CAMPUS

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will be performing under the direction of **Sergiu Comissiona** with piano soloist **Jon Kimura Parker**. Works to be performed include Druckman's "Summer Lightning," Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini," and Tchaikovsky's "Manfred Symphony." Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 8 p.m. For tickets, call 410-783-8000. Be sure to ask about student tickets!

Catholic Mass will be celebrated from 5 p.m. until 5:45 p.m. in the Newman House (2941 North Charles Street), followed by **Newman Night** from 6 until 8 p.m., which includes free dinner followed by an activity.

Friday, March 31

ON CAMPUS

Concerto Italiano will be performing under the direction of Rinaldo Alessandrini with contralto Sara Mingardo. Works by Castello, Marini, Monteverdi, Farina, Bonocini, Pergolesi, Legrenzi and Corelli will be performed. The Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 8 p.m. For tickets and other information, call 202-707-6362.

OFF CAMPUS

Feminist Expo 2000 For Women's Empowerment will feature Gloria Steinem, Dolores Suerta, Dar Williams, Betty Friedman, Patricia Ireland, Senator Dianne Feinstein and Holly Near, to name a few. For more information, call Dorit Radzin at 410-516-3667 or e-mail her at dorit@jhu.edu. Runs through April 2.

Organist Donald Sutherland will be performing works by Bach in honor of the composer's 250th death anniversary. Griswold Hall, Peabody Conservatory of Music, 8 p.m. For tickets, call 410-659-8124.

Loyola College is sponsoring its **First Annual IT Career Fair**. There will be employers from all corners of the IT market. Loyola College's Timonium

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 Black Cat, 1831 14th St., NW, Washington, D.C., 202-667-7960
 Bohagers, 515 S. Eden St., 410-563-7220
 Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., 410-522-0784
 Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., 410-332-4200
 Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., 410-276-9085
 E Level, Levering Hall, JHU, 410-516-6219
 Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., 410-558-1889
 Hal Daddy's, 4119 E. Lombard Street, 410-342-3239
 Harry's, 1200 North Charles Street, 410-685-2828
 Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., 410-327-8111
 Ottobro, 2-3 East Davis Street, 410-752-6886
 Rec Room, 512 York Road, 410-337-7178
 The Vault, 401 S. Eutaw Street, 410-244-6000
 Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames Street, 410-327-4886
 Wyatt's, 1614 Eastern Avenue, 410-732-8656

COMEDY

Bayou Nightclub, 3135K Street NW, Washington D.C., 202-783-7212
 Comedey Factory, 36 Light Street, 410-752-4189
 Improv, 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington D.C., 202-783-7212
 Tracy's at The Bowman, 9306 Harford Road, 410-665-8600
 Winchester's Comedy Club, 102 Water Street, 410-576-8558

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 Blue Moon Cafe and Espresso Bar, 1621 Aliceanna St., 410-522-3940
 Cafe Tattoo, 4825 Belair Road, 410-325-7427
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 Funk's Democratic Coffee Spot, 1818 Eastern Ave., 410-276-3865
 Louie's Bookstore Cafe, N. Charles Street, 410-962-1222
 Margret's Cafe, 909 Fell Street, 410-276-5606
 Ze Mean Bean Cafe, 1739 Fleet Street, 410-675-5999



Rehearsal. ROTC Building, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
 For information, e-mail band@jhu.edu.

OFF CAMPUS

Dr. Catherine B. Asher, professor of Art History at the University of Minnesota, will be speaking on "Paradise Inhabited: The Gardens and Palaces of Mughal India." Walters Art Gallery, 600 North Charles Street, 3 p.m. Cost is \$10. For more information, call 410-547-9000.

The Preparatory Chamber Orchestra and the Preparatory Sinfonia will be performing under the direction of Seljuk Cardan and Gene Young, respectively. Admission is free. Friedberg Concert Hall, Peabody Conservatory of Music, 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, call 410-659-8124.

Handel's "Belshazzar" will be performed with full orchestra and renowned soloists. Historic Beth Am Synagogue, 3 p.m. To purchase tickets and obtain more information, call 410-366-6544.

Father Riepe will be listening to Confessions and then there will be Catholic Mass. Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith Center, 10:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Organists **Leo Wanenchak** and **Randall Mullin** will perform a recital for four hands and four feet. They will play works by Ravel, Messiaen, Sowerby, Rutter, and a special rendition of Richard Wagner's "The Ride of the Valkyries." Saint David's Church, 4 p.m. For additional information, call 410-467-0476.

OFF CAMPUS

There will be a **Concert of Russian Folk and Sacred Music** with the ensemble NEVA Russicum. St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dundalk, Maryland, 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 410-633-5374.

ON CAMPUS

As a part of DSAGA's Transgender Awareness, poet **Mark Doty**, winner of the Lambda Literary Award, will be reading from his works and speaking on his life. Mudd 26, 8 p.m.

DSAGA will be having its weekly meeting. Gilman 20, 8 p.m.

The Office of Career Planning and Development will be hosting a **Great Resumes!** workshop for students interested in boosting their on paper presentation. Clipper Room, Shriver Hall, 12 noon to 1 p.m. For more information, call 410-516-8056.

OFF CAMPUS

Opening Day for the **Baltimore Orioles** as they pit their abilities against the Cleveland Indians. Oriole Park at Camden Yards, 3:05 p.m. For tickets, call 410-685-9800.

Author **Lynn Crawford** will be reading passages from her fictional writings. Maryland Institute College of Art, 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-225-2300.

Tuesday, April 4

ON CAMPUS

"The Man" **Dr. William Brody** will be speaking as a part of the Voyage and Discovery Lecture Series. His topic of discussion will be "From Why to Why Not: An Engineer, a Businessman, a President - The Story of Dr. Brody." Mudd Hall, 7 p.m. Refreshments will follow.

There will be a **Term Paper Clinic** courtesy of the Writing Center. MSE Library, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

OFF CAMPUS

The **Peabody Trio** will perform a concert of works by Beethoven, Schnittke and Kernis. Friedberg Hall, 8 p.m. For tickets, call 410-659-8124.

There will be an **All-Baltimore Concert** and the proceeds generated will be donated to local non-profit organizations. Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-783-8000.

Wednesday, April 5

ON CAMPUS

Dr. Benjamin Ginsberg of the Political Science Department will be speaking on "American Politics at the Millennium: Prospects and Problems."

PICK OF THE WEEK



There is a new exhibit coming to the Maryland Science Center on May 12. The exhibit is entitled "AFRICA: One Continent. Many Worlds." The exhibit is being co-sponsored by the Ford Motor Company and TIME Magazine. On display will be many works of art originating from the tribes and lands of Africa. Not only that, but there will be several interactive exhibits that will allow visitors a hands-on experience.

The exhibit will be separated into five distinct sections: Community and Family Life, Art and Society, African Ecology — Tour, Commerce, and Diaspora. These five segments make up an overall picture of life in Africa. The exhibit will start out with a general overview of Africa and its daily life. Then, there will be a segment dedicated to the art and its relation to society in Cameroon. There will be several unique works of art in this section.

There will also be a tour of the animals

in Africa. Most of these animals are unique to Africa and cannot be found in the United States. Our current concept of commerce will be traced back to African tribes and visitors can learn about the ways in which men traded and engaged in commerce. The last section of the exhibit is dedicated to Diaspora and the displacement of Africans to slave colonies. The ships' conditions and later the actual slave conditions in America are examined.

This exhibit traces the history of African-Americans while also objectively displaying the bounties of Africa and explaining its significance in daily culture.

Maryland Science Center
 601 Light Street
 Baltimore, MD 21230
 410-685-5225

Shriver Hall, 12 noon. Free.

through May 7. For more information, call 202-783-5000.

This is a **National Day of Silence**, during which students who support transgender rights will uphold silence in tribute to those who are silenced by prejudice and bigotry. To participate, contact DSAGA at 410-516-4088.

As a part of DSAGA's Transgender Awareness, Transsexual activist **Dana Rivers**, fired from her teaching position for her gender identity, will be discussing her struggle for transgendered rights. Gilman 110, 8 p.m.

There will be a **Term Paper Clinic** courtesy of the Writing Center. MSE Library, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The **Johns Hopkins University Band** will be having **Concert Band Rehearsal**. ROTC Building, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 410-516-8450 or e-mail band@jhu.edu.

OFF CAMPUS

The **Peabody Percussion Ensemble** will be performing works by Takemitsu, Hollenden, Descarfino, Glass and Ginastera under the direction of Jonathan Haas and with the assistance of flutist Mark Sparks. Friedberg Hall, 8 p.m. Free. For further information, call 410-659-8124.

On Going

ART EXHIBITS

The **Baltimore Museum of Art** is currently displaying an exhibit entitled "Nadar/Warhol: Paris/New York," which features the works of both men. Baltimore Museum of Art. Runs through May 28. For more information and tickets, call 410-396-7100.

The **National Museum of Women in the Arts** presents an exhibit entitled "Ellen Lanyon: Transformations, Selected Works from 1971-1999." Washington, D.C. Runs

MISCELLANEOUS

The **Maryland Science Center** is exhibiting **Backyard Monsters 2**, which is an exhibit featuring in-depth exploration of bugs. Runs through May 29. For details, call 410-545-5965.

The **Maryland Science Center** is currently showing **Fantasia/2000**. 601 Light Street. Runs through April 30. For tickets and details, call 410-481-7328.

THEATER

CenterStage is putting on a production of Shakespeare's **Macbeth**. Runs through May 7. For tickets and further information, call 410-332-0033.

Mama, Say I Do is currently showing at the **Encore Theatre**. Some showings include dinner. Runs through April 2. For tickets, call 410-466-2433.

Campus Notes

Do you know someone whose leadership and dedication to service makes them worthy of a Student Excellence Award for Leadership and Service (SEALS) Award? Then, nominate him or her! Nomination forms are available at the front desk of 3505 North Charles Street, the desk at Levering, the Wolman desk, the SAC office, and the AMR II Mailroom. All nomination forms are due by April 14 at 5 p.m.

The Department of Occupational Health Services is offering a Weight Watchers at Work program for those interested in shedding a few pounds before the bathing suit season hits us. All JHU Faculty and Staff are eligible to participate. The classes will take place on the Homewood Campus and the cost is \$70 for the entire ten week session. The group will meet once a week for an hour at a time to discuss techniques of weight loss and good health. For more information, call 410-516-0450. Space is limited so call soon. The class begins on April 24.

The Johns Hopkins University Press is soliciting Hurt and Used Books for its annual book sale. All donations are tax deductible, so clean your shelves and help someone else for a change. Donations will be taken between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. from Mondays through Fridays at 2715 North Charles Street. For more information, call 410-516-6900.

ABC News Nightline is currently seeking students to fill their newly made one-year fellowship, which teaches students the essentials of broadcast journalism. They want students with liberal arts backgrounds and an interest in world affairs. No journalism experience is required. The deadline is April 15. For more details, write Kate Krauss at Nightline Fellowship Coordinator, ABC News Nightline, 1717 DeSales Street, Washington, D.C. 20036.

The Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership is offering scholarships to three undergraduates and one graduate student. This scholarship is given to promote the study of public policy so that future policy makers can help shape Asian Pacific American public policy. Students will be awarded \$2,000 stipends to carry out research in the realm of public policy. For more information, call 202-628-1307 or look up their URL at www.capal.org.

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine is seeking research subjects for the Department of Radiology, Division of Nuclear Medicine. The department is searching for healthy volunteers between the ages of 18 and 55 for a research study requiring the injection of a radioisotope and an investigational drug. Participants will receive compensation ranging from \$250 to \$600 upon completion of the study. For details, call Maryanne at 410-955-8250.

The Peabody Conservatory is establishing a new, full-time position with the title of Graduate Assistantship in Liberal Arts. The GA will be responsible for serving members of the humanities department and their students. The GA will also be responsible for teaching and grading some classes. For more information about the application process, contact Dr. Ron Levy at 410-598-8159 or e-mail him at rlevy@peabody.jhu.edu.

The Human Motor Learning laboratory of Dr. Reza Shadmehr seeks right-handed individuals to participate in an experiment. We wish to examine how humans use visual feedback to control arm movement. Volunteers are paid \$10 per day for a two-day experiment. Subjects must be able to

participate on consecutive Thursdays and Fridays. Contact lenses are okay, but no eyeglasses, please. Experiments are conducted in Taylor 416, JHMI. Protocols have been approved by the JHU Joint Committee on Clinical Investigation. For more information, call 410-614-3424.

Healthy men and women aged 18 to 50 are needed to participate in an outpatient research study of commonly prescribed medications. Participation involves three sessions lasting about five hours each at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. Volunteers will be compensated with \$175. For more information about this study, please call 410-550-1916.

The Writing Center provides a free service to all undergraduates who want some help with their writing. You don't need a completed piece of writing — in fact, the sooner you come by, the better. You can bring an assignment, idea, outline, paper, lab report, personal statement, story, or any other written work, and we will try to help you organize your thoughts and express yourself clearly. Drop by during hours or call ahead x4258 for an appointment. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday 2 to 6 p.m. We're located at the Owen House (the blue house behind Macaulay Hall, near the entry gate to the Hopkins Club).

The Charles Village Parade is coming up soon! The date is set for June 3. If you're interested in participating, call Steven Rivelis at 410-243-7979 x-11. All are welcome to come display any assortment of talents. There will be prizes offered for five categories: Best Charles Village Entry, Best Community/Neighborhood Association Entry, Best Float, Most Entertaining Entry, and Most Wild, Wacky, Funky, Zany Entry. You could win \$100 just for having fun!

Campus Notes are provided free of charge as a service to JHU-affiliated campus groups. Please submit a brief paragraph to us by Tuesday night at 5:00 p.m. by electronic mail (News.Letter@jhu.edu) or by dropping off a copy at our offices at the corner of Art Museum Drive and Charles Street.

EXPOSURE

By PHIL ANDREWS



CINEMA

American Beauty

Charles, Eastpoint, Harbor Park, White Marsh

Erin Brockovich

Eastpoint, Towson Commons, White Marsh

Final Destination

Harbor Park, Towson Commons, White Marsh

Ghost Dog: Way of the Samurai

Charles, White Marsh

Here on Earth

White Marsh

Mission to Mars

Harbor Park, Towson Commons, White Marsh

My Dog Skip

Esatpoint, Towson Commons, White Marsh

Next Best Thing

White Marsh

The Ninth Gate

Eastpoint, White Marsh

Rear Window

Senator

Romeo Must Die

Eastpoint, Harbor Park, Towson Commons, White Marsh

The Straight Story

Charles

The Whole Nine Yards

White Marsh

Tumbleweeds

White Marsh

Whatever It Takes

Eastpoint, Towson Commons, White Marsh

The Wild One

Charles



COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS

Jet Li and Aaliyah star in Romeo Must Die, another film that transforms Romeo and Juliet into a modern race-based rendition.

For Showtimes Call:

Senator - 410-435-8338; Eastpoint Movie - 410-284-3100;

Harbor Park - 410-837-3500; Charles - 410-727-3456;

Towson Commons - 410-825-5233; White Marsh - 410-933-9034

OnCampusRecruiter.com
Cool Jobs. Cool People.



The Caribbean Cultural Society of the Johns Hopkins University presents:

CARIBBEAN JAMBOREE 2000

MARCH 31 to APRIL 8

Friday, March 31

CULTURAL SHOWCASE

Come and enjoy the performances of various dancers, singers and other entertainers as they serenade you with the rhythms of the Caribbean. This event is free and refreshments will be provided.

7 - 10 pm

GREAT HALL OF LEVERING UNION

MARDI GRAS/CARNIVAL

The fun's just getting started. Party with us as we celebrate Mardi Gras and Carnival with FOLCS and OLE. Free samples of Caribbean, southern and Hispanic cuisine will be available. Admission is free.

10 pm - 2 am

XANDO

Saturday, April 1

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Join us as we go to Project Destiny of Hope and spend some time teaching neighborhood kids about the Caribbean

3:30 - 7 pm

MEET AT LEVERING UNION DESK

Monday, April 3

MOVIE NIGHT

Sit with us and enjoy 'Smile Orange', a comedy which was filmed in Jamaica, revolving around a writer at a tourist hotel.

Free refreshments and admission

7 - 9 pm

AMR I TV ROOM

Tuesday, April 4

CARIBBEAN CAFÉ

Enjoy a little taste of the Caribbean as Wolman Station and Terrace Court Café serve tasty Caribbean dishes. You can also listen to the smooth rhythms of the Baltimore Islanders as you dine at Terrace Court Café. This event is free for meal plan subscribers and \$7 for all others.

5 - 7:30 pm

JHU CAMPUS

Wednesday, April 5

GAME NIGHT

Test your skills against other spades and dominoes players for a cash prize of \$80/team for spades players and \$80/team for dominoes players.

Free pizza and soda will be served. Registration fee of \$3 per team of two. Don't know how to play?

Just come and watch for free!

8 - 12 pm

AMR I MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

Thursday, April 6

PANEL DISCUSSION -

Status of Health Care in the Caribbean

Diplomats from Caribbean nations will be providing important information about practicing and studying medicine in the Caribbean. In addition, the panelists will also talk about the structure of medical schools in the Caribbean and the new directions for medicine in the 21st century.

Dr. Franklin Knight, the Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Professor of History will serve as moderator. Refreshments will be served

12 noon - 2 pm

GREAT HALL OF LEVERING UNION

Saturday, April 8

MISS CARIBBEAN 2000

Who will be crowned Miss Caribbean 2000? The pageant will take place as you enjoy savory Caribbean cuisine provided by Caribbean Food Paradise. Admission is \$10 for the pageant and the after party.

5 - 8 pm

Mergenthaler 111

Saturday, April 8

CARIBBEAN VIBES 2000

No one parties like Caribbean People!! Come out to one of the best fetes of the year on Hopkins campus! Admission \$3 at the door.

10pm - 2 am

Under the Dome, Levering Hall

For further information contact:

Kathryn Moore 410-889-4096;
kam2@jhu.edu

Trina Boyce 410-467-0363;
trb2@jhu.edu

The Caribbean Cultural Society would like to thank the following people who made these events possible: SAC, Dean Bowles, Dean Benedict, Dean Massie, the Young Alumni Fund, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the Office of Residential Life, Auxiliary Enterprises, the Office of Community Relations and Volunteer Services, our group advisor, Mrs. Regine Lafosse-Shanti, Dr. Franklin Knight and our members and friends.

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10pm - 2 am

Under the Dome, Levering Hall

CARTOONS, ETC.

Horoscope



ARIES: (MARCH 21-APRIL 19) You have to make up your mind about what to do with your future. Maybe you should pose for *D-Cup* magazine like your roommate.



TAURUS: (APRIL 20-MAY 20) Might and brawn will overcome all of your best efforts. So you'll come out a little bruised. But what do you expect when you volunteer for the bucking bronco?



GEMINI: (MAY 21-JUNE 20) Think before you drink. Okay, time's up. Start drinking now, please. Don't stop! Don't stop a rockin'! And the world won't stop spinning.



CANCER: (JUNE 21-JULY 22) The story about Quake is not true, no matter how much you want it to be. But I'm sure that won't cut down on your playing. Get some sleep for once.



LEO: (JULY 23-AUGUST 22) Front, back, side to side — you'll go everywhere next year. Yup, that's how it goes when you fly. But it's going to be so worthwhile.



VIRGO: (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22) Page your friend at the airport and make him miss his plane. It'll save his life. Oh, wait, no it won't. This isn't *Final Destination*. Thank God.



LIBRA: (SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 22) Is this love? I think it must definitely be. How sweet. It's such a nice romantic picture: you, a case of Beast and a Beirut table. Nice.



SCORPIO: (OCTOBER 23 - NOVEMBER 21) News of your injury caused great concern. But it's good that you're okay. Oh, and that extension on your paper has been revoked. Or am I kidding?



SAGITTARIUS: (NOVEMBER 22 - DEC. 21) But you can't do that on television! Oh, please, will you that MTV's Spring Break shit a rest? Go get some internet porn or something.



CAPRICORN: (DEC. 22 - JANUARY 19) It's going to be a sweet time tonight. A few drinks, a great concert. Damn. Too bad there's so much work to do. We should do this more often.



AQUARIUS: (JANUARY 20 - FEBRUARY 18) April is a month for rain, and that could be good when you see girls wearing white shirts. You never know when you'll stumble on an impromptu wet T-shirt show.



PISCES: (FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 20) Fools for love don't like you at all. They're just fools. That's because you're so cold and calculating. But more cold than anything else. Fool.



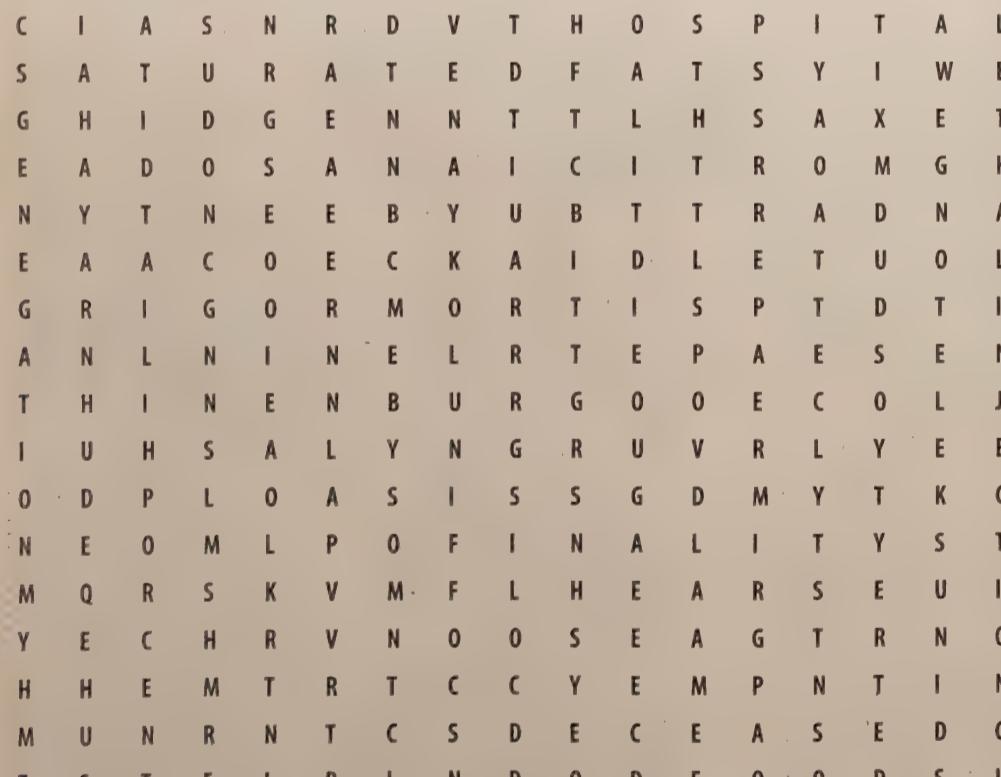
the hop

by Mahnu Davar



Death

'In the midst of life...'



WORDS TO FIND:

Coffin
Deceased
Decomposing
DOA
Finality
Grim Reaper
Hearse
Hindenberg

Hospital
Lane
Lethal Injection
Mortician
Negation
Nine (Millimeter)
Noose
Rigor Mortis

Saturated Fats
Skeleton
Slayer
Texas
Bonus word:
Necrophilia

Save the nipples: Wear bras!

Kitty is too hung over from her Monday night drinking spree to answer any of our readers' pressing questions. So, hold your breath until next week when Kitty and Bambi's Helpful Hints Return. For now, just sit back, relax, and enjoy a discourse on brassieres.

The subject of this article occurred to me when a male friend naively asked, "So, is it ok for a girl not to wear a bra?" The question occurred to him as he walked across the upper quad on a chilly morning and spotted a tank-top-wearing chick. In a passing glance, he saw nipple. "Whoa, that's not supposed to happen is it?" No, it is not.

Please, wear a bra. And I don't mean those flimsy Calvin Klein pieces that are nothing but a piece of gauze with some wires. They might keep

If you are a larger size like a D, for the love of all that is holy to you, pick a supportive bra. Sagging is not sexy! It makes you look older than you are and not in a good way.

you perky but they do nothing else. Nipples are a special part of the woman's body, best saved for the bedroom and Oscar night dresses. The Hopkins campus is not the place to show them off. Guys like an occasional glimpse of nipple but if a girl shows off every day it might get old. It is kind of like a nudist colony, where after a while no one notices the nakedness. (Any guy who wants to disagree on this, please write to: kittyandbambi@bomdigity.com.)

With tank-top season around the corner, we have to be choosy about our bras. Most importantly, as I have recently mentioned, wear a bra. Then, when it comes to selecting a bra to go under a tank-top, please remember the following:

The bra should have some kind of thickness to it. No one wants sweaty breasts caused by cheap polyester padding. However, we must remember that tank-tops are often made from thinner material through which nipples are more likely to be spotted, so find a compromise in the thickness of your brassiere.

If you don't mind the world looking at your underwear, go ahead and show off the straps but remember that the straps cannot clash with your outfit. Don't wear an odd-color bra if you are wearing an even odder-colored tank top.

Once you make the decision to let your straps show, make sure that your bra is not a worn out white number. White straps look cheap when peeking out from under a tank top. White bras can only be worn under clothing, although not white clothing. Flesh-colored bras must be worn under white clothing because a white bra can be seen in its entirety under a

Leold www.leold.com
by Roger and Salem Salloom © 1997

When I blow out the candles on my birthday I always wish for personal stuff.

I don't wish for world peace, a better job or that I'll have the perfect love.

I ask for tighter jeans, smaller ears and more light bulbs in my bedroom.

My brother says these types of wishes show a lack of maturity.

I think he's jealous because it seems my jeans are getting tighter, and my ears are definitely getting smaller.



CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIEDS INFORMATION

Classified advertising is offered free of charge to students, faculty, staff, and affiliates of the Johns Hopkins University and Medical Institutions. All free classifieds must include name, phone, and Hopkins affiliation. Free classifieds will continue to run each week as space allows or until otherwise notified. Limit 50 words. Longer ads may be edited to 50 words at our discretion.

For local advertisers, classifieds are charged at 25 cents per word while for national advertisers, classifieds cost 50 cents per word. The *News-Letter* requires prepayment for all word classified advertising. Display Classifieds are priced at \$8.00 per column inch. A Display Classified consists of more than 50 words of text, a boxed ad, or any classified requiring additional typesetting.

All classified advertisements are due by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the edition in which the ad is to run. Ads may be submitted in writing in the following ways:

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter
Shriver Suite 6
3400 N. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Business: 410-516-4228
Fax: 410-516-6565
email: News.Letter@jhu.edu
<http://newsletter.jhu.edu>

Help Wanted

Retail Development Trainee Williams Jackson Ewing, a specialty retail development company located in downtown Baltimore, is seeking college graduate to assist in the company's home office in order to learn retail development business. Williams Jackson Ewing offers a bright energetic, friendly, polished, team environment workplace. No experience necessary and opportunity for advancement. \$25,000 to start plus full benefits. Call Charlie Johnson 24 hours at 410-752-6007 ext. 101 or send e-mail to Cjohnson@wjeinc.com or visit our website at www.wjeinc.com

Production Assistant College Publisher needs students to assist production of national publication. Fun Environment! Must be hard-working, have good org., communication skills. Hiring for April-Sept. P/T to start, F/T during summer. Fax res/letter to Campus Concepts, c/o production, 410-625-0065.

Staying for the Summer? We've got Great Summer Jobs: work outdoors, free job training, earn as much as \$9/hr, possibility for promotion, great resume material. For an interview call 410-516-2272 or e-mail acg1@jhunix.hcf.jhu.edu

Internet start-up seeks students to conduct Market Research in Baltimore and Washington. Must be able to provide own transportation to locations. Please call Erin at 410-327-1000, ext 1235 for details."

Tutor in Experimental Psychology; Towson University Student with some disabilities resulting from adolescent TBI needs help in note-taking and research paper writing. 10-15 hrs. per week. \$10/hr. call 301-585-1119

Best Summer Job You'll Ever Have! Top-notch Maine summer camp for boys seeks counselors to instruct either basketball, tennis, lacrosse, baseball, hockey, golf, hiking, ropes course, archery, swimming, boating, waterskiing, arts & crafts, photography, video, music. June 23 - August 16. Highest camp salaries plus travel, room, board, laundry service, internship credit. Great facilities, beautiful lake-front setting. We seek fun, dynamic, responsible role-models who enjoy working with children. Call 410-337-9697 or e-mail Skylemar99@aol.com

\$\$\$ Summer Cash \$\$\$ Student Business Mngmt./ Sales Position with National Firm. Pays \$10 - \$12 + Commission. Available to Soph, Jr & Sr. only. For info. go to <http://www.jablon.com>

Do something good... TEACH BALTIMORE! Teach two summers with Baltimore City youth, receive a stipend and education grant. Juniors interested in teaching after graduation? Earn a Master of Arts in Teaching at minimal cost from JHU! Call Jody@410-261-1882 or pick up an application at Career services

Escape to the Shenandoah Mountains of West Virginia. **TIMBER RIDGE CAMPS**, coed seeking energetic, fun-loving staff to work with children this coming summer. 90 miles from Wash. D.C. Top salaries,

Mint with mint tags. \$24 each obo. Many MCAT books: Kaplan, pre-med books etc. Cheap Prices. E-mail syoung@welch.jhu.edu

Day Bed For Sale. W/ Hide a Bed, one year old - two twin mattresses included. Excellent condition. \$300 - negotiable. Call 410-243-1086

For Sale: Computer Monitor \$25, Mac LC II \$90, 10 Speed Bike \$35, Dehumidifier \$75, Sewing Machine \$50. 410-377-0038

13" TV w/VCR & radio, \$60; 13" TV, \$40; Alarm clock radio, \$10; portable CD mini system, \$50; cordless phone, \$20; toaster, \$10; Emmanuel, 410-516-6108 or e-mail ory@titan.me.jhu.edu

Automotive

1992 Mercury Grand Marquis, gray, 75k miles, in Very Good Condition! V8 gets 22 mpg hwy / 18 mpg city. Power steering, locks, seats and windows. ABS, dual airbags, leather interior, radio/cassette deck, keyless entry. \$7000 negotiable, call Neil @ 889-2989, e-mail nhb@jhu.edu

1994 Green Mazda MPV 7 passenger Mini-van w/OverDrive System. Auto Transmission, v-6 Engine. 58,000 miles. A/C, AM/FM Cassette, Cruise, Pwr. Steering/Windows/Locks/Mirrors. Side & rear windows factory tinted. Extended Warranty Still in effect. Excellent Condition \$10,000 Call 410-466-2596

VW Quantum '86 98,000 miles; 5 speed; A/C; Power package Excellent condition. Must Be Seen. Best Offer. Prof. Gerard Defaux, Dept. of Romance Languages. Home: 410-467-2155. Office (voice-mail): 410-516-4626

1995 Mazda Protege, 40K highway miles, new tires, runs exquisitely, take a look!!! \$11K negotiable Tom 410-0-235-0034, newegypt@hotmail.com

'85 Buick Century, driven daily, dependable. Auto, PS, Pw, cruise. Will consider computer trade in part \$900 OBO. 410-358-2667

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For Sale: 1990 Honda Civic LX, 4dr, AC, AM/FM/cassette, power locks, windows, light blue, good condition, 100,000 miles, \$3195 or best offer. Call Barbara at 410-516-8322

For Sale: sewing machine \$60. 25" TV \$95. 10 speed bike \$40. Electric radiator \$25. 410 682 5473

For Sale: Full Size Mattress, Box Spring, and Frame. 6 mo. old \$300. Call 443-803-7769 or e-mail kim.vu@ey.com

Baltimore Blast Soccer Game Tickets Available to Best Offerer. 410-337-9877 Eve B./Leave Message.

For sale: GE washer, large capacity, 6 cycles, runs/looks new, 18 month old \$175. Call 410-366-0229 or e-mail LM18@jhu.edu

Hewlett Packard 620 color Palmtop, like new condition, with all accessories. Bought for \$700, sacrifice ar \$325 obo. Ty Beanie Babies: 1997 Christmas Holiday Teddy, retired.

Nonsmoker wanted to share 3BR/2BA apt. Facing Wyman Park nr Rotunda, avail mid-April. \$314/mo + 1/3 utils. 410-889-0415 or yasumorita@yahoo.com

Looking for 3 roommates to share a house 2 blocks from campus. House has recently been remodeled. 3BR's upstairs and one in the basement LR/DR/Kit and beautiful backyard with fishpond. Non-smokers please \$350.00+utilities call Tom 410-889-3496 or Jean 410-780-6885

M NS Postdoc seeking room/efficiency/1BR apt for sublet/rent from 4/1/month by month basis. Tim 410-235-2204. hittim73@hotmail.com

ROOMMATE WANTED, asap, to share great 2 bedroom apartment directly across from Homewood. This ain't no dorm room! You've gotta see it to believe it. Why settle? \$380/month plus 1/2 utilities. Ring Stuart at 410-467-7154 or e-mail swhicks@mail.jhmi.edu

Male non-smoker(s) wanted to share 3rd floor of JHU owned corner rowhouse on Homewood campus. 2 large private bedrooms available. Free furnishings available. Sublease must start after 4/21 and end by 6/30. \$300/mo./person, incl. utils. except phone. Central heat and AC, dishwasher, free W/D in building. Arrangements can be made with JHU to lease entire floor after 6/30. Martin 410-516-6821, mpc@jhu.edu

Housemate wanted to share 4BR, 1.5 Ba, RH near JHU shuttle, W/D, A/C, partly furn'd, avail. April & May. \$250/mo + 1/4 utils. 410-662-4570

Non-smoker (preferably) wanted to share 2BR, 1Ba RH, nr Rotunda/Shuttle, W/D, porch, deck, yd, big kitchen. \$350/mo. incl. utils. call Jan 410-467-9227, or jmcook@co.ba.md.us

Sublet available May to September in Charles Village house. W/D, alarm and fresh paint. Prefer non-smoker, female, grad/prof, possibly vegetarian. \$275-325. Call Tricia @ 410-467-4384

Roomate needed to share a two bedroom, plus office rowhouse in hamden. 10 minute walk from JHU, AC, W/D, Dishwasher, \$325/mo. plus 1/2 utilities. John 410-235-2240, johnball@yahoo.com

Roommate Needed: Responsible F Student to share clean 2BR TH near JHU, A/C, W/D. \$240/mo. + half utilities. Anne (301)665-1945

Roommate Needed: Responsible, neat, and clean student/prof. to share 3Br. house in Hampden. 10 minute walk to JHU or Rotunda. HDW floors, LR and DR, W/D, and newly renov. kitchen W/DW. Rent is \$241 + 1/3 utilities. Lease ends 8/1/00. Aleks or Amir 410-467-3380

F prof'l nonsmoker wanted to share Fells Pt. 2BR, DAC, W/D, conv. to JHMI, must like cats, \$200/mo. + 1/2 utils. 410-534-8149

Single female, graduate student, non smoker wanted to share large house in Towson area. Must like animals \$545 plus utilities. January 1st. 410-377-8545

Non-smoking roomate to share Roland Park (Caryle) apartment with one male and one female, both JHU seniors. One room plus access to living room and kitchen, tv/vcr, dishwasher, microwave, A/C, Internet access. 5-min. walk to Homewood. Available immediately \$285/mo + electricity/phone. Please call Brian 410-235-8960 or e-mail brian@nbsolutions.com

Quiet student (preferably grad), NS, to share very large, sunny 2BR, 2 full baths, across from JHU, W/D, on Shuttle route. \$360/mo. + 1/2 elec. Bill, 410-467-0345

Mint with mint tags. \$24 each obo. Many MCAT books: Kaplan, pre-med books etc. Cheap Prices. E-mail syoung@welch.jhu.edu

Available Apartments

Furn'd efficiency at St. Pauland 39th. Priv. entrance, in exchange 12 hrs. weekly mow/rake lawn, cleaning, laundry, child care, need car, NS, 1 yr. lease. 410-467-0800

Charles Village Efficiency 2828 St. Paul St, 3 blocks from campus. Spacious first floor, modern, secure bldg., freshly painted, air cond., rear yard. No pets, yr. lease. \$350 mo. Call Jerry 410-583-2266

Guilford, Near JHU. 5 Bdrm, 2 1/2 bths, pkg. Avil July 1st \$1500 mo. Call 410-377-9794

Homewood campus 3BR 1BA lg LR & kit w/dw, top floor apartment in JHU owned corner RH. Central heat & a/c. Parking spot. \$725/mo. + utils 1 yr avail May kscott@mail.jhmi.edu

For Sublet: Unique top floor efficiency with private balcony and walk-in closet for only \$500.00/month. Sublet is 4/1-1/1/2001 and lease can be renewed. Current tenant is willing to help with April rent if unit is taken April 1. E-mail Miller at mroberts@ae.jhu.edu

Sublet available through May in highly sought after University West complex. Spacious, fully furnished. \$250+utils (\$100 below list!) Tom 410-1-235-0-0034, newegypt@hotmail.com

House for Sale Woodberry. Renovated 2BR, 2 bath THS. Hdwd flrs. Open floor plan. Lots of light. Newly painted in/out. Screened in porch. Landscaped. Must see. 5 min to Homewood/12 min to JHH. \$56,400. Lisa 410-462-6133.

Charles Village - efficiency - 2828 St. Paul St, 3 blocks from campus. Spacious first floor, modern, secure bldg., freshly painted, air cond., rear yard. No pets, Yr lease \$350/mo. Call Jerry 410-583-2266

Renovated 1 Bdrm apt, walking distance to campus. Private entrance to "basement" apt 3205 Guilford Ave. \$325 includes heat and hot water. 410-560-2883

Mt. Vernon/Peabody Apt. on Centre St. Very lg. sunny, new rehab, 1 Bdr. Secure Bldg. Hdwd Floors & Laundry on prem. \$650/mo. + util. 410-335-1996

COLOMBIA two rms avail. in furn. S/F home. N/S only. \$375 and 1/3 util. Mark 410-715-9728

2BR, Newly renovated, Charles Village, minutes to campus, furnished/unfurnished, Heat and Hot water included \$650. 410-662-4138. Short term lease available

Available in March: 1BR, newly renovated, 1st floor, Charles Village, Heat/Hot Water included; \$485 Short term available. 410-662-4138; khpkh@hotmail.com

Spacious efficiency at 3100 St. Paul Street, Avail. April 1st, wall to wall carpet, 3 min. walk to School of Engr. or JHMI shuttle, \$340/mo., 410-366-0229 or LM18@jhu.edu

Mount Vernon, sunny 1BR in security building, 9th floor, great city view. \$600/mo. + utilities. 410-243-1167

Baltimorean Apartments 2905 N. Charles St. 410-889-4157 email: baltapts@aol.com Guest rooms available for short term rentals of one month or less. Price includes a fully furnished large efficiency apartment, all utilities, parking space, exercise room.

Houses for rent: Large and roomy 4 and 5 bedroom houses in Charles Village for rent in June. All have alarm systems, washer and dryer, parking, and big rooms. Great for groups of students. 410-889-5759

Sunny, spacious unfurnished, effic. w/garden view. AVAIL IMMEDIATELY. St. Paul and Univ. Blvd., 2 min. walk to JHU. Sec. bldg., laundry facil. \$475 mo./heat and gas included. 410-662-4065 or e-mail wreed@gene.bio.jhu.edu

Available Services

Piano lessons for all levels Peabody graduate With professional experience Please call Ms. Geng at 410-662-7951

Russian speaking mother of a Hopkins student, former teacher, will care for a child and/or take care of a house. Roman, 410-243-2832, roman@ai.mit.edu

Learn Microsoft Word and Powerpoint from a Microsoft certified professional and for word processing services, e-mail parul162@hotmail.com or call 410-889-0937

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THE BASEBALL QUIZ

Do you ever read those self-diagnosis questionnaires often found in magazines? The ones that encourage you to seek help if you respond affirmatively to a given number of questions about ADD, depression or sleep apnea? The QM is constantly unnerved by these diagnostic tools. She regularly answers "yes" to seven out of ten, but two of those could have gone either way, and number four is always a little ambiguous. Every now and again, however, the QM faces a situation in which the need for professional intervention is clear. The QM's mother is one such case. Many suspected that the woman was a little too fond of baseball when she mentally rewrote the homily at a confirmation mass in order to give it a baseball-twist. Some were unnerved by her habit of smuggling a portable television into restaurants so that she could keep an eye on the game from beneath a linen tablecloth. However, rock-bottom was achieved about eight years ago when the game transcended athletics and entered the realm of home decorating. The QM's own mother hung a water-color of Wrigley Field in her otherwise well-appointed dining room. Clearly for her, baseball is more than a pastime; it's a lifestyle choice. This matriarchal obsession has had certain psychological effects for the QM. WGN served as the soundtrack to her childhood, and she feels a certain affinity for anyone named Harry or Carrie, or who has rhyming given and surnames. Ivy-covered walls are considered the epitome of good taste in facadry, and while many of her peers feared the darkness, the QM—in true Wrigley fashion—shunned the light. With Opening Day looming, it's time to pay tribute to America's game. Get your answers in by Tuesday at 5 p.m. You can bring them to the office, e-mail them to News.Letter@jhu.edu, or fill them out online at <http://www.jhu.edu/~newslett>. The winner gets a free case of beer or other beverage as well as \$10 worth of food from our sponsors, Eddie's Market and Eddie's Li-



quors on the 3100 block of St. Paul.

1. In 1908, a commission sponsored by Spalding published a report regarding the origins of baseball. The report credited the invention of the game to a U.S. Army officer from upstate New York. Most historians today claim that this man has little, if anything to do with the game. They believe the sport developed from an English game called "Rounders." However, popular wisdom is not always swayed by academia, and most Americans continue to believe that this West Point grad is the father of the game.

Who is widely believed to be the inventor of baseball?



2. Though his ties to the game are dubious at best, the aforementioned officer's hometown is the home of baseball mecca. Citizens of the town established the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in his honor.

Where is the Hall of Fame located?

3. How many batters does a pitcher face in a perfect game?

4. In 1965, Judge Roy Hofheinz finished construction of what he billed as the eighth wonder of the world—the largest indoor sports facility in the world. The original plans called for a dirt floor with natural grass under a clear plastic roof. However, a portion of the roof had to be

painted to reduce glare and improve playing conditions. The reduced level of available sunlight was insufficient to support the grass, and an alternative had to be found. Judge Hofheinz challenged the Monsanto Company to produce an acceptable synthetic playing surface. The synthetic surface was installed in time for Opening Day, 1966, and the trademark name is still in effect today.

What playing surface was used in this indoor complex, and where is the complex located?

5. In baseball, what is a "southpaw?"

6. When is the song "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" traditionally sung?

BONUS: What are the lyrics to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game?"

7. When a team is at bat, how many of their coaches are on the field, and where do these coaches stand?

8. What is the "hot corner?"

9. A certain baseball-related delicacy has a name of unusual origin. One cold April day in 1901, concessionaire Harry Stevens was losing money on sales of ice cream and cold soda. Ever-enterprising, he sent his salesmen off-grounds to buy up all the then-popular "dachshund sausages" they could for resale to the spectators. Cries of "Get your dachshund sausages while they're red hot!"

inspired sports cartoonist Tad Dorgan. In the pressbox with deadline approaching, Dorgan was desperate for an idea. He hastily drew a picture of a barking dachshund nestled in a roll. Not a speller, he was unsure of how to print "dachshund." The facsimile he employed is still used as the name of this food today.

What ballpark food did cartoonist Tad Dorgan name?

10. Let There Be Light. And it was good. And from then on, the Chicago Cubs played night games at home. What day marked the first night game at Wrigley Field?

FOR A BONUS/TIEBREAKER, NAME AS MANY STADIUMS, PAST OR PRESENT, THAT ARE CORPORATE-SPONSORED.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S CANDY QUIZ:

1. Blue
2. Original, Wild Berry, Tropical
3. Now and Later
4. Twizzlers
5. Nestle
6. Haribo
7. Starburst
8. PEZ
9. Pop Rocks
10. Candy Canes
11. Cherry, grape, orange, lemon, lime, tropical punch
12. Jelly Belly



CONGRATULATIONS to Steve Loeys, winner of last week's Candy Quiz. In between M&M snacks, head on over to the Gatehouse to claim your winnings.

EXPOSURE

BY CHUNG LEE



THE JOHN HOPKIN NEW-LETTER

VOLUME MM, ISSUE 104,000

PUBLISHED SINCE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

FEBRUARY 30, 2004

Rapper Will Smith to headline 2000 Spring Fair

■ Willennium Fair? Spring Fair chairs say, "Yeah, yeah!"

BY ALFONSO RIBERO
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Spring Fair chairs Alison Ross and Katie Reider announced this year's headlining entertainer will be Will Smith.

"Parents just don't understand. We're pumped for the Willennium," Ross stated.

Considering last year's Spring Fair act sucked, Ross and Reider were determined to get a big name performer this year.

"I was pulling for Mycroft Holmes, or maybe Tube, but Alison kept lobbying for some guy ... that one that used to sing with DJ Jazzy Jeff, Bill Smith or something," Reider said.

Smith, also known as the Fresh Prince of Bel Air, is a platinum-selling, Grammy-winning, pseudo-white, fake-rapper for suburban children. His wife, Jada Pinkett, noted for her celebrated roles in *Woo* and *The Nutty Professor*, hails from B-more.

"We're takin' Homewood campus into the Wild Wild West," Ross exclaimed. "Get jiggy with it! Na na na na na."

The cost to attract Smith came to an overwhelming \$750,000. Despite SAC efforts to scrape together contingency dollars, all other forms of entertainment have been cancelled due to lack of funds.

"For the last time, no! There will be no funnel cakes or bloomin' onions this year," Reider stated. "The petting zoo? It had to go."

Ross seems confident that they will make enough money from Will's 15 minute performance to pay for the cost to bring him, as well as his shady West Philly entourage, here.

"It's Big Willie Style," explained Ross.

Tickets will cost \$1200 a piece and go on sale this Saturday morning through Ticketmaster or the Levering Desk.

Tentative opening acts include those students who spend their Friday nights in Coffeegrounds instead of at parties like the rest of us, the LadyBirds, and the Buttered Niblets. Popular WHSR DJ Phil Andrews will serve as MC for the evening.

"I've been a fan since He's the DJ, I'm the Rapper. It totally influenced

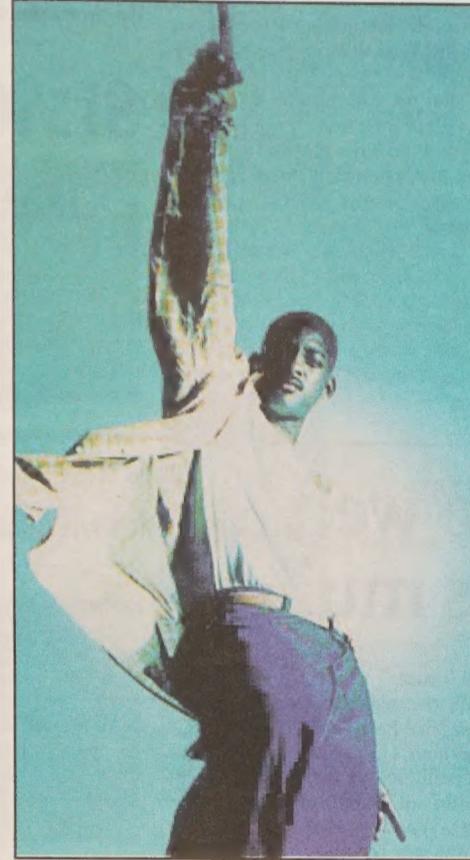
me to pursue music," Andrews stated. "I just can't believe he ditched my home-piece Jazzy."

While the student body has been a buzz since the Smith announcement, there are a number of Hopkins undergrads who expressed disappointment that the 98 Rock Beer Garden will not be at Spring Fair this year.

"Doesn't anyone care what we think? Let's put it to a vote," said senior Margaret Betts.

"We are not putting this to a vote," said Class of 2000 President George Soterakis, "Will Smith is the performer for Spring Fair and that's it!"

Addressing the unhappy students, Ross said, "They need to give Smith a chance! Once he does 'Miami' Shriver will be slammin'."



Big Will is on his way, boys and girls! Get Jiggy!

Commencement speaker George Tenet to be replaced

BY STEVE COCKER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In response to the controversy surrounding CIA Director George Tenet's selection as Commencement Speaker, senior class president George Soterakis announced Wednesday that Tenet will be replaced by Canadian actor William Shatner.

"He is a great man," explained Soterakis. "When I take my first steps of the rest of my life, I want his words, his wisdom, to be with me and my giant head."

Shatner is best known for his groundbreaking work as Captain

James T. Kirk in the 1960s television adventure *Star Trek*. His other well-known performances include hosting *Rescue 911*, numerous guest appearances, and starring roles in films such as *Free Enterprise*, *The Twilight Zone*, and, in 1965, *Incubus*, the only American Esperanto-language thriller.

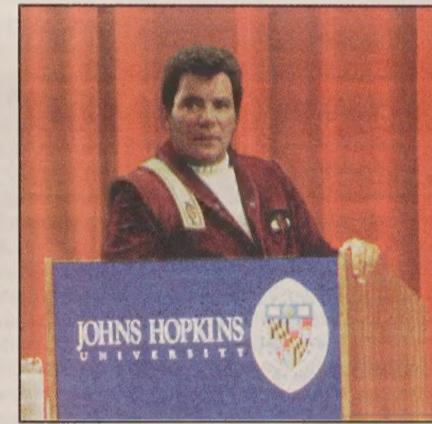
"I'm ... honored ... to be asked to ... speak," said Shatner in a subspace communiqué interview. "John Hopkins ... is a place ... where no Shatner has ever gone ... before. I will seek out new life forms ... and new civilizations. And ... to ... encourage everyone ... to visit priceline.com. It's the age of Aquarius."

Soterakis worries, however, that the hour allotted to Shatner will not be enough. "I'm looking into making it an all-day event. You know, rides and films and collectibles. Like a convention."

University President William R. Brody claims to be a big fan. "Dude, Bill Shatner and I go way back. Back in college, we used to do those spoken word recordings of songs when we were high."

Shatner was unable to comment on the recordings due to Klingons jamming the transmission. Fortunately, Leonard "I AM SPOCK"

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2



Captain's Log: I am stuck here at Shriver.

Online registration not possible at JHU

BY BILL BLANKS
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Office of the Registrar announced Tuesday that online registration, a project started in 1995 and designed to go online last fall at the latest, will never be realized at Johns Hopkins University.

"The technology is simply too advanced," explained Dean Massa. "It's impossible."

When informed that just about every other university from here to Calcutta has managed to put the system together, Massa could only comment, "We just can't figure out how the other schools do it. It must be that whole 'internet' thing."

Programmers working on the project felt that security was a major obstacle.

"There is a danger that people outside the university could break in and sign people up for courses they don't want to take, like IFP or the new Quake course. We just can't afford to take that risk."

The Office of the Registrar will also be moving to a typewriter and abacus system in order to decrease the danger of computer theft.

"Due to the difficulty of the switchover, we've set up a long-term schedule," Massa said. "But I am pleased to announce that we will be computer free by 2007!"

Under the new system, students wishing to register for a course will

have to do so two years in advance, submitting their forms in triplicate to each department, whether taking a course in that department or not.

In order to accommodate the increase in paperwork, the new Massa Plan designates AMR I and II as storage facilities. Students will live five to a room in Buildings A and B.

Students will also be required to answer the Dean with "Yessuh, Massa" or "Nossuh, Massa."

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

NEWS

Quake class added for rocket jockeys, Massa shits pants

BY KWAKE ADDICK
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After the Organic Chemistry requirement for premeds was eliminated, the Arts and Sciences deans have been scrambling to find classes to expand offerings, now that most premeds will presumably take something else.

"Poof!" exclaimed Assistant Dean Steven David. "Really, it's gone. I can't believe it."

First on the agenda, due to popular student demand, a Quake class will now be offered by the department of Computer Science — thanks to the quick reaction of the School of Engineering. Obviously, the new course will make Whiting students even more devoted to school work, since so many of them — especially premeds — enjoy Quake more than hooking up with girls.

"Our time has come," said Quake fiend, but non-premed, Mark McCoy. "Life couldn't be better for me. Shit, I'm going to get an A in that class."

With hundreds of premed students scrambling for the easiest class possible to boost their GPAs, Quake seemed like the clear replacement for Computer Literacy as biggest gut class on campus.

It is part of the administration's zero-tolerance policy towards grade inflation, while still trying to boost students' GPAs.

The instructor for the new course to be listed as Introduction to Quake Fundamentals, is currently undecided, but reliable sources within the department of Computer Science say, "All those fucking geeks would cream themselves for a chance to teach this class. They'll do the homework along with the students."

In a surprise move, a tentative syllabus for the class has been outlined, though no instructor has been picked. Course material will range from basic concepts such as "the rocket launcher" to techniques such as "advanced fraggging."

As it stands, students will be required to play a minimum of 12 hours of Quake each week. In order to get an A, they will have to demonstrate marked improvement over the course of the semester on the class's server, which will also be open to players from around the world. They will also have to use the word "ping" in a variety of sentence structures.

Class members will present a final project to the class in which they must outline 10 improvements they would make to Quake in future versions.

Not everyone is happy with the new course offering.

"I wish I could take a cupcake class like that," said a disgruntled Writing Seminars major, who could not be identified because he hid behind a pillar outside Gilman Hall.

The Student Labor Action Committee is also picking up their anti-

Quake efforts in lieu of this year's Living Wage debacle.

"I've received reliable information that not all people who put Quake into that cellophane wrapper make a Living Wage," said graduate student and SLAC member David Snyder. "If this University thinks it can just overlook such a major problem in Southeast Asian factories, we won't stand for it. We are going to relentlessly take action in order to be heard. And what about the graduate students? Hub? Why can't we get a fucking pay raise?"

While an endless line of premeds shapes up in front of Levering Hall before registration, SLAC members say they are planning to chain themselves to a variety of iMac computers until, as SLACer Eric Leslie said, "the latest version of the game is released for Apple computers, oh, and the injustice stops. Do you have any crack?"

Engineering Dean Ilene Busch-Vishniac would only comment that response to Introduction to Quake Fundamentals has been "received with rave reviews from many young men who appear to masturbate quite frequently."

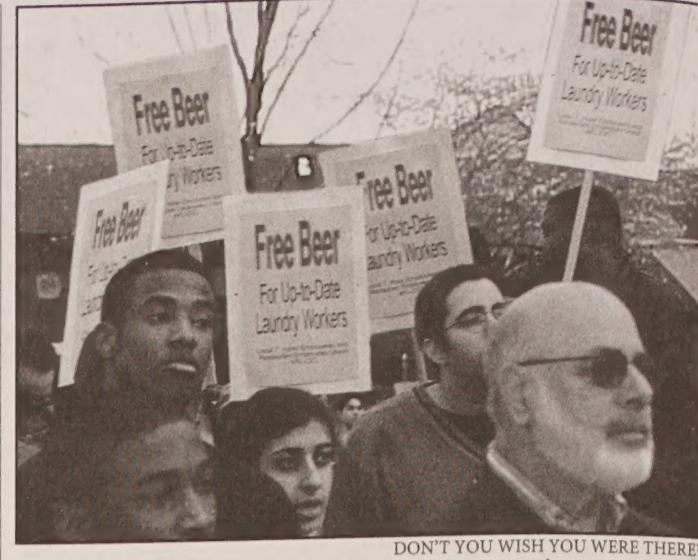
Shatner sets Tenet to stun

FROM THE MIDDLE OF A1
Nimoy was available for comment. "Bill takes that spoken word shit so seriously. It was cool back then — I mean, screaming out the lyrics to 'Mr. Tambourine Man' did have a certain existential flava' back then, but beyond that ... it's highly illogical."

"But you know what's not illogical," interjected Shatner, "naming your own price for groceries online at Priceline.com. It's a whole new way to shop."

"Shut up, Bill. Hey reporter guy, this fruit never used to sell out back in the good old days. He just needs the green to pay for this heroin thing he's on now. ... Scotty! What are you doing here?"

"Goddamn 'ay, lads. I heard about this nonsense with Bill and them druggs. It's not the druggs that's got the tike in an Irish noose — it's these Hopkins women. All educated and the like. Whooey! I can't take it anymore!"



DON'T YOU WISH YOU WERE THERE?

We shall eliminate the rebels by the end of the next rainy season.

SLAC finds Socialist paradise at Olin rocks

CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT PAGE
Leslie's statement, explaining that the janitorial staff made an extra \$345.15 per person per day working overtime to clear the building of

two incoming freshmen's financial aid packages were revoked to compensate.

Hopkins administrators have decided that it would be more cost effective to hire former convicts to "negotiate."

Is that poisonous? No, it's Mr. Pibb.

Oh, no? Then why is my tongue melting?

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

PUBLISHED BY STUDENTS SINCE ... OH, BEFORE YOU WERE BORN

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How do you distinguish a man who takes his penis too seriously from one who doesn't? The man who doesn't take his penis too seriously is able to be kind and caring and doesn't beg out when it comes to doing the dishes. He may have various passions in life, often sports, music, business, or trying to fix things (sometimes successfully). But these usually help to center rather than isolate him. Sex with him is a natural extension of your friendship that makes all the sense in the world.

As for "curing" the kind of man who takes his penis too seriously, you can't. Hard as you might try, no human being has ever changed just because someone else wanted him or her to. It's something that has to come from within. Friends and lovers can sometimes help if they are willing to call the guy on his nonsense. But they can't make the changes for him.

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The Johns Hopkins News-Letter

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"Analog for all!" cries former Dean Massa

IT STARTED ON THE COVER

Massa, who is technically no longer a Dean of any department at the Johns Hopkins University, won his previous position in a game of poker as well as Brody's daughter and wristwatch. He has been seen in a ski mask stealing computer equipment from the Johns Hopkins Institutions everywhere and stuffing in the back of his 1984 Peugeot hatchback.

Said one geriatric Hopkins Hospital patient, who happens to be the goalie for the Keswick Retirement Home Fighting Metamucils, as the former Dean ran off with his comput-

erized respirator, "Please, Massa, I need that to live. [groan ... die.]"

The Charles Street Standard staffer Edward Isaac-Dover publicly supports the former Dean. "Our publication comes out less than the Young Republicans. At least now we have an excuse. [groan ... die.]"

"It really sucks that I'll never be able to register online," commented junior G. Saketh G. Ra[h]m.

Scheduled Commencement speaker William Shatner beamed in from apparently nowhere, "Yes! But you can get a home mortgage online at Priceline.com. It's a natural high, baby."

Zack Pack to wed in Vegas, grows mullet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

The first censured the Council President for wasting precious time when they could have been wasting the University's money.

The second reprimanded Class of 2001 Representative Eva Chen and

"Oh my God! Is that an innie?"

—SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DONNA SHALALA

Homewood Student Affairs co-chair Kara Wiard for "lewd conduct such as you might only see at the circus during the discussion of President

Pack's ruse."

As the meeting closed, Junior Class Vice President Greg Wu said, "Hey guys, I just want to say that, uh, I'm really happy for Zack, and we should all be supportive of his thing."

Wu was seriously wounded by various Council members before Hopkins security officers arrived on the scene.

President Clinton and the White House did comment on the incident late Wednesday night.

"Who?" asked spokesman Joe Lockhart when asked about Pack's situation.

"Oh, yeah, that short guy. We had to have his ass hauled out of here a few weeks ago when he stepped on a coffee table in order to try to get a better view."

StuCo approves living wage for itself

BY WOLF BLITZER

ANIMAL IN THE SACK

After a grueling thirty-hour debate in which three officers had to be hospitalized for exhaustion, Student Council voted unanimously to authorize a living wage for its members.

The meeting began Wednesday evening with reports from executive officers. Council President Zack Pack opened his speech with the announcement of his engagement to Chelsea Clinton, daughter of President Bill Clinton (See article, p. A1). Pack said, "as is expected when an Arkansan and a Missourian get married, my bride-to-be is already pregnant with my twin sons, Jack Pack and Mack Pack." Pack then proceeded to hand out "it's a boy" tacos to the stunned Council.

Vice President for Institutional Relations G. Saketh Ram, still hungover from February's Booze Cruz announced that the Project 2004 website will now feature a review and streaming video samples from the Video Americain pornography room.

After Saketh G. Ram's presentation, Par-tay Committee Chair Omar Nour turned down the lights, plugged in a smoke machine and several strobe lights and proceeded to do a striptease on the table to Eiffel 65's "Blue" in order to promote Inferno, the annual Unity Dance. Wearing only a sequined thong, Nour said "all of the beautiful people will be there, and they will all back their collective asses up for you. Come on Saketh [Ram], G, you'll have a fabulous time!"

After the smoke cleared, Class of 2002 President Jenny Chiang an-

ounced that since "Touch me Tuesdays" was so successful, the Class would be adding "Whip me Wednesdays," and "Throat me Thursdays."

The Council then began discussion on the main piece of new business, the "Living Wage Bill," which would use the SAC budget to pay Council members the Living Wage, currently \$7.90 an hour, for time spent on Council related activities.

Bill sponsor Stephen Goutman said, "By not paying our hard-working representatives a living wage, we are essentially creating poverty. Why can't we let our representatives and class officers live with some dignity? Why must they have to be ashamed to drive around campus because their cars are two years old? Why must these good people wear suits from the Men's Wearhouse when Brooks Brothers has better tailors? How can we, as a community, live with ourselves?"

"This is not undoable," said Goutman, "the Living Wage for Student Council would cost only \$73,000. We have over \$600,000 in a slush fund in an offshore bank. For once, put people over profits!" Pack then whispered into Goutman's ear and Goutman then said "forget what I said about the slush fund, we will have to cut some pork out of the budget to pay for this...we don't need another symposium."

Objection came swiftly from Class of 2003 President Safe Fecadu, who said, "I'm, like, really against this because some guy told me that he didn't like it and I trust him. I can't exactly tell you who because the brim on my visor precludes me from identifying

Reclining on the bed was a woman Mac barely recognized. Although the scraps of white satin covering her breasts seemed inconsequential, they managed to emphasize her cleavage. His gaze traveled to the white lace garter belt and panties, which defined her femaleness in ways he'd never imagined. The garters were fastened to white silk stockings, and on her feet were four-inch heels.

Her gaze swept over him. "I have the reaction I wanted. Would you like to get out of those clothes? You seem a bit...overdressed."

He groaned softly and shook his head to clear it. He'd need every ounce of his control to make this the slow seduction he had planned.

"C'mon, Mac, undress for me," Tess said with a saucy grin. "I'll make it worth your while, cowboy."

STUDENT COUNCIL ATTENDANCE, APRIL 1, 2000

Capo di Capi	243-2625	Mullet
President Zack Pack	516-2650	G
VP Institutional Relations Saketh Rahm	235-2143	Where's Kara?
VP Administration Eva Chen	5	

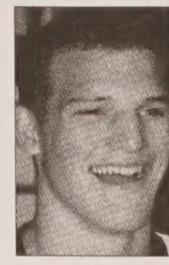
NOT NEWS

The 12 most influential undergrads at JHU



1. BETSY

She's hot. Whadaya want?



7. NICHOLAS

Nick, you're much too old for Tom and Jerry. It's just not that funny. Nick, you alright? ... Nick?

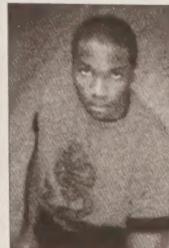
2. HARRELL

Karate Kid here could flip your white ass any time he wanted to. Don't step.



3. RODNEY

The member of The Temptations they don't talk about. From Motown to Charles Village.

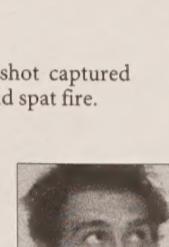


8. ERIC

Eric looks forward this semester to having his hair cut *without* the bowl.

9. DAN

Dan recently added a six-foot spoiler to his lowered, black Toyota Supra. He wears big pants.



10. MICHAEL

Grrrr! Me Mike. Mike not like dentist! Mike get angry once and eat little sister! Grrrr! Me Mike!



11. MATTHEW

Many have wondered how Matt intends to get the cinderblock out of his ass this semester.

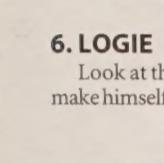
4. SVETLANA

Though she is only seven years old, her influence is far-reaching.



5. RAQUIB

This rare 7-11 security cam shot captured Raquib before he grew ten feet and spat fire.



6. LOGIE

Look at this homo. Anybody brave enough to make himself look this fucking dumb gets our vote.

12. SARA

Sara's, like, cool. No really, we think she's, like, hot and stuff. And she likes horses ... Yeah.

3,812. ABDULAHAD REHMATULLA



Millennium Week schedule announced

BY CHARLES IN CHARGE

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

AMR I TV room, 7 p.m.

Tuesday April 4
Movie Double Feature!
Look Who's Talking Now
followed by *Leprechaun*
AMR I TV Room
Show starts PROMPTLY at 7 p.m.Wednesday April 5
Student Council Meeting
Shriver Board Room, 7 p.m.Thursday April 6
Telephone (You know the game!)
AMR I TV room, 7 p.m.Friday April 7
"Petting" Zoo
AMR I TV room, 7 p.m.

The schedule is as follows:

Sunday April 2
Face painting
AMR I TV room, 7 p.m.Monday April 3
Make Your Own Sundaes
(BYO Ice Cream and Jimmies)

in Springfield, Ohio.

"I'm hoping to move up to assistant manager within six years. That's my timetable," Juneja said.

He added that he still uses the stolen stacks of the *News-Letter* as a bed.

SHAUN AHMAD:

How far he fell after coming to the brink of winning the Student Council presidency from Zack Pack. Now he's shaved his beard in order to avoid

Where are they now: The guys who stole the N-L in '99

BY HARRY BOOTOX

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After stealing more than 1,000 copies of a *News-Letter* issue last spring, what's happened to the three former Student-Council-fanatics-turned-thieves? We've got an exclusive update.

HARPRIYE JUNEJA:

He just barely got his degree and after graduation, has embarked on an up-and-down career as a 7-11 clerk

"I'm hoping to move up to assistant manager within six years. That's my timetable."

— CLASS OF 1999 MEMBER HARPRIYE JUNEJA ON HIS JOB AT 7-11 IN OHIO

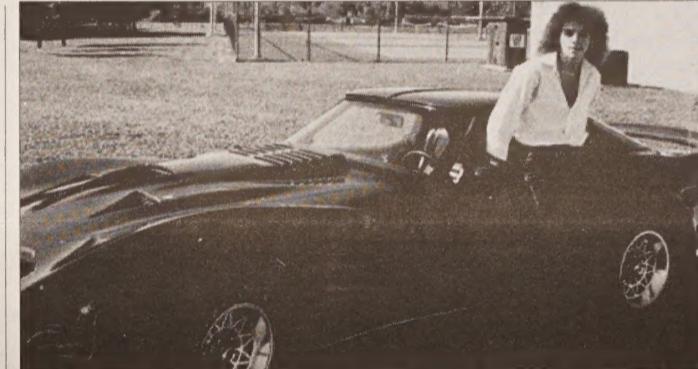
being recognized as That Guy. He unsuccessfully tried to assassinate several members of SLAC with a pipe bomb before going into hiding. "I should be running this joint," Ahmad squeaked from his secret hideout in the Ames Hall basement. "It's no fair. I'm going to kill that Zack Pack quack."

HARI CHANDRA:

You might see his green Mitsubishi Montero with New Jersey plates — their getaway car — parked around campus on occasion, but you won't see his name anywhere near Student Council anymore.

That's because he's so busy working the drive thru window at Taco Bell on North Avenue, which might explain why he walked around with taco neck all the time.

"I just liked those Shaquille O'Neal commercials so much that I had to join the winning Taco Bell team," Chandra said of his new career.



Greetings from Asbury Park.

Beach gets new name

BY BOBBY BENSON

HOPKINS HOTIE

In an effort to make the lawn in front of the MSE library less social, the University said that the area will no longer officially be referred to as "The Beach" but rather as "New Jersey." Effective this Monday, students heard using the term "The Beach" on campus will be immediately brought before the Student Conduct Board.

The change is part of the University's Master Plan.

"After we saw the mess that students left there that one nice day a few weeks ago, the idea just hit us," remarked an unattractive campus authority.

Administrators hope that the new name will discourage the primarily affluent undergraduate student body from aggregating on the lawn.

"I mean, come on, The Beach

sounds so appealing — it's a Leonardo DiCaprio movie! But New Jersey? Ugh. Who wants to go there?" Dennis O'Shea meant to say.

According to Pablo, that guy who sells Domino's in front of Wolman Hall, students have already taken to the new name. He remarked, "I can't tell you how many times I've heard kids refer to that brick structure as Pt. Pleasant. Or is that the wall? I can't remember. Hi, how are you?"

However, the new name has already attracted unwelcome visitors in pink Camaros with t-tops. "I've seen more mullets out there in the past two days than at the NHL All-Star game," added O'Shea, I think it was.

SLAC has already posted campus, protesting the new name, claiming that "after the New Jersey Turnpike EZPass discrimination, the new name is simply unacceptable."

CHARTS

Albums

1. Dick and the Extenders *Ain't got time for E.D.*
2. Joey Joe Jo Shabadoe Hey, Joey Joe Jo, Come Back
3. Guns n' Roses *Appetite for Destruction*
4. Pokemon *We Rule Your Children's Mind*
5. 10 Yard Fight *Old School Hardcore Beat Down*
6. Brak Presents the Brak Album Starring Brak
7. Britney Spears *I Wear this Tube Top in the Name of My Savior*
8. Backstreet Boys *We're Not Gay, Really*
9. Sisqo *I Can't Spell, Yo*
10. Kid Rock *Devil Without Skills*

source: Dotcom.com

(Creamworks)

6. Cider Jack Rules (Skin-a-Max) \$37.2 M

7. The Green Bile (Destina) \$5.8 M

8. Being John Voight (ParaMOUNT) \$10.6M

9. I Still Know What You Did Two Summers Ago in the Outhouse with the Camp Counselor \$52.23 (Teen Death)

10. Mission to Uranus (Jasik Films) \$35

Source: The Mountain Streams of the Rockies

Food That's Better than Terrace

1. Ramen Noodles
2. Smelly-ass Kimchee
3. Red Hot Chili Peppers
4. Human Flesh
5. Ho-Ho's
6. Ding Dongs
7. Ro-ko Chicken (while drunk)
8. Black Pudding
9. Pig's Feet Soup
10. Pretty much anything, really

source: Two years of suffering

OCTOBER 14, 1999

NOT NEWS

A BUNCH OF STUFF YOU LOSERS WON'T GO TO ANYWAY

Nothing All Week, Homewood Campus, 24 hours a day, only \$32,000.

Invert and Xibalba Baltimore's two most famous polka bands rock out folk style in a dingy basement. Egg Nog and non-sexual orgies will be in effect.

Monday, 423 Southway, 6:56 p.m. until 7 p.m., free without clothes.

Elvis Long dead rocker returns from the grave for a one night only engagement. Buttered Niblets open.

Saturday, 4 p.m., Arellano Theater, \$5.

Sara Billard She sings, she dances, she edits the *News-Letter*.

Friday, Night Shift, 10 p.m.-all night baby. Admission \$5, tips very welcome.

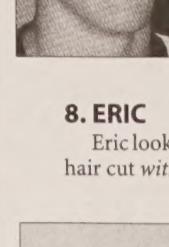
PJ's Lots of drinking, all week.

The Gatehouse Probably even more drinking, all week.



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Eric looks forward this semester to having his hair cut *without* the bowl.

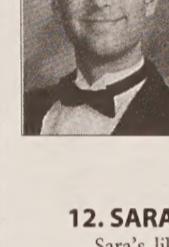
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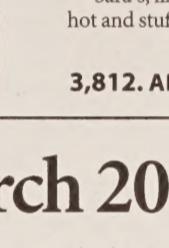
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Source: The Mountain Streams of the Rockies

CHARTS

1. Debbie Does Dallas (Clinton Pictures) \$3,455 M
2. Bikini Carwash Company II (Paramount) \$

KIZALENDAR

SATURDAY APRIL 1
PARTY AT AMANDA'S
304 E. 31ST ST.
10 P.M.
(SERIOUSLY)
B.Y.O. HOT CHICKS



SPIZORTS

DO YOU KNOW?

OF COURSE YOU DON'T.

Blue Jays get smack down, Carc announces retirement

BY RICK CERRETTI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Blue Jays' 1-3 record just got a little more embarrassing.

The Keswick Retirement Home's Fighting Metamucils slammed the Jays this past Saturday with a 15-1 win in an exhibition game that matched the Division I team against an all-star team of over-65 players.

"There's always been trash talk between us, but we never thought we'd ever get the opportunity to play the Jays," said Metamucil head coach Gramps Grizzlie. "We figured they were a bunch of pussies, and we were right."

With an extra man opportunity 2:46 into the match due to nap time, Hopkins started things off with an easy shot by freshman attackman Bobby Benson.

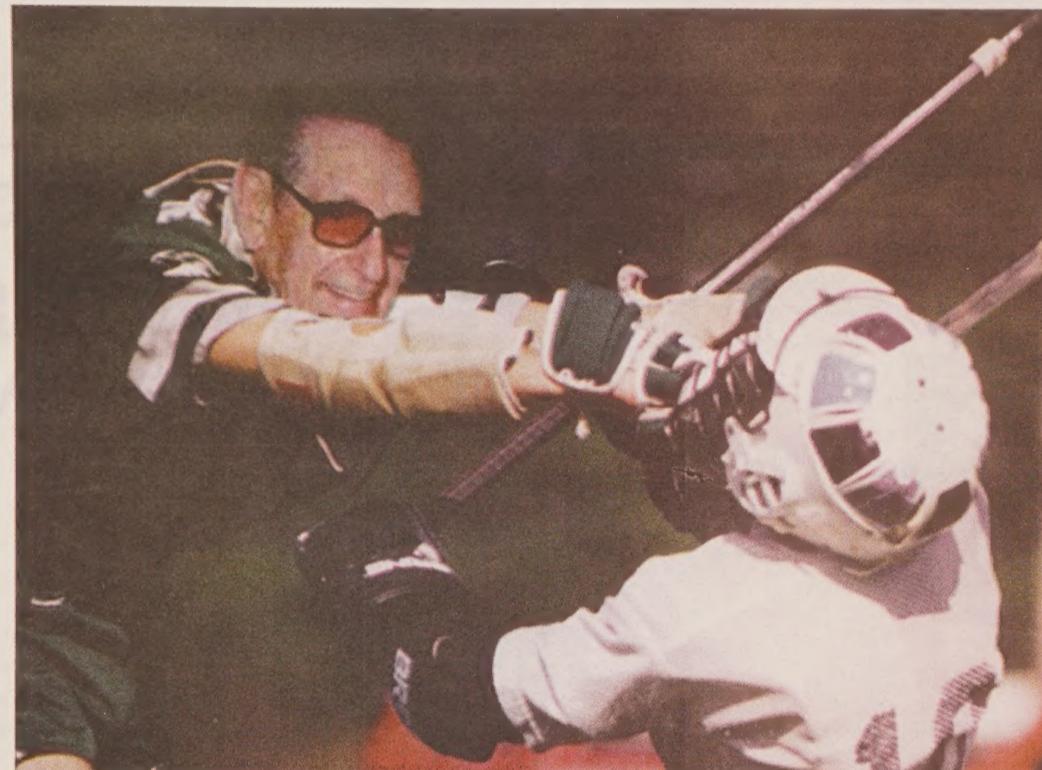
"It was a great shot," said coach John Haus of Benson's effort. "He's such a hottie."

Six minutes later, with 6:31 left in the first quarter, however, everything turned around.

Senior Metamucil attackman Ol' Man Grumps hit the mark with an impressive pass from senior midfielder "Pops," who actually lost his dentures mid-swing.

Despite an early lead, the Jays just couldn't get the ball past the solid Metamucil goalie, senior Ol' Coot Jonesy, for the rest of the game.

"The guy's in a fucking LARK, which is bigger than the goal itself, driving around! Of course, I couldn't get past him," reasoned senior attackman Dan Denihan.



Don't talk back to your grand-pappy! Gramps lays it down hard on the Jays at the Keswick-JHU contest.

Rugby will begin sensitivity training

BY SHOOP A. DÜP
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

campus this semester. "We've all just been so busy finishing that Rugby field on Greenmount. Because it's the children that are really important."

The team's poor performance during the year is also thought to be a factor. "We didn't get a single pledge this year," lamented Senior Dave Elliott. "People won't think we're cool unless we have at least 60 random guys all wearing multiple sets of Greek letters."

"This is an exciting opportunity for this team," said club President Steve Goodman. "This is a great time especially to reiterate that we have had absolutely nothing to do with anything that has happened on this campus during the past month. Nothing."

"We was in Philly when that shit went down ... yeah, we was in Philly," added sophomore Ben Maritz.

"We feel this is the next step on the road to world domination," believes team Hentai Officer Sam "Boy" Clanton. "Now that we have built a reputation for class and respect, these seminar attendees will be most receptive to the subliminal messages during the 'How to love your fellow humans' segment."

"Muaahahaha," added Richie "the 16th man" Molyneux. The pair later affirmed that the Rugby team had definitely been involved in no events so far this semester, with the exception of their semiannual "Guinness Drive for the Thirsty."

Sadly, no freshmen will be allowed to attend the seminars, participate on the team, or attend classes with Rugby team members, as the team hopes to remove itself from any suspicions of hazing.

Some speculate that this effort is merely a cheap publicity ploy by the rugby team in light of some of their less than exemplary behavior.

"Absolutely," agreed club treasurer Bruce "Storm Shadow" Sweeny. "The team just doesn't have the cash to go for anything elaborate. Beating down Pike, now that's cheap publicity."

The sophomore later apologized for the team's total lack of activity on

media and graphic design.

The rugby team would like to apologize to the campus for its inappropriate actions, specifically its choice to model scandalously revealing "English-style" rugby shorts during the fall. Bruce Sweeny speaks for the team when he says: "It dun been an erro' in judgement, and we is profoundly busted t'all dose personally affected. Slap mah fro!"

Pssst ... DSAGA might be, um, gay

N-L uncovers campus homosexual shocker, Webster to modify dictionary

DSAGA is gay. I know this may come as a surprise to most of you, but I am absolutely certain of it. Well, actually, let's just say I have my suspicions that the student group's members are not heterosexual.

Though it may be hard to believe at this conservative University, an overwhelming amount of evidence, however circumstantial, points to un-American activity within this student organization.

For example, you know when you

Remember the time I nailed my scrotum to a two by four?



BOB FLANAGAN
No, SERIOUSLY
FOLKS...

see those chalk messages around campus such as "Jesus loves me and my lesbian lover" and "I'm not a lesbian but my girlfriend is"?

Although nobody ever takes credit for it, I think it just might be DSAGA.

And this Gay Awareness month? Okay, fine, it's unrelated to DSAGA, but I keep seeing their name on the posters. It doesn't take a genius to

put two and two together. DSAGA are obviously interested in promoting gay rights. Gay rights!

Also, I've seen two girls in the group making out. Now, I don't know a whole lot about this kind of thing, but I think it means they might be gay.

Okay, so I don't have any hard evidence.

It's raining fruits and dykes.

LISTEN UP!

Hey you quimbies! In case you haven't figured it out yet, THIS ISN'T THE REAL NEWS! In fact: April Fool's, genius. So don't get your panties in a bunch, settle down and laugh a little.

And don't sue us; we're kidding.
— The Management

EXPOSURE

By PHOTO JOE

